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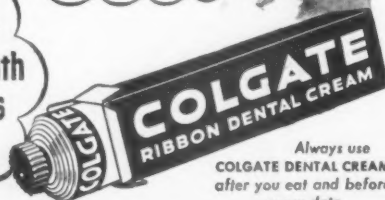
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Cleans Your Breath  
While It Cleans  
Your Teeth!



## LETTERS AND PICTURES

### OVERSEAS FANS

By chance, I got acquainted with EBONY. Can't get a subscription over here.

Please, please, please, which reader can supply me with finished copies?

I am in love with EBONY and simply dying to meet him again, especially in a country of all-white people.

(Miss) GEO GRAVENBERGH, Nunspeet, The Netherlands.

A few days ago I received my first copy of EBONY, May issue, and I wish to thank you very much for it. You'll never know how much I do enjoy reading this great magazine. I hope you don't mind if I'm going to tell you how I discovered EBONY.

In 1946 I met in Zurich a colored GI from Chicago. He was stationed in Leghorn (Italy) and spent his vacations in Switzerland. We have become good friends and in 1947 I visited him in his camp down in Leghorn. At this occasion I saw your magazine for the first time. It was the issue of September, 1946. I asked my friend to give it to me and I read it from the very beginning to the end. To be truthful with you, it has been the most interesting and best magazine I have ever read.

I am a young Swiss and I'm fond of Negroes and it was just the magazine I have been looking for. From that moment on I wanted to take in EBONY, and sometime ago another colored friend of mine from Brooklyn (N. Y.) whom I invited in my home at Christmas, 1945, asked me to send him something from Switzerland and he wanted to send me something from America. I thought it would be a very nice present to get the EBONY and asked, therefore, my friend to pay you the subscription price for 1948.

I show EBONY to all my family and my friends and they are also very interested in it and think that it is a real beautiful, progressive magazine. My first success was that a pal of mine, Mr. E. Kern of Zurich, has also taken in EBONY now, and I hope to be able to find more people.

One thing I'll never understand is why you have advertisements for bleach creams, for lighter skin. In my opinion, a dark skin is as good as a white one or a lighter skin. I think it's a contradiction against the good work you are fighting for.

WALTER GFELLER

Zurich, Switzerland.

I have just read my first copy of EBONY through the kindness of a friend in Detroit, after trying to get a copy for some time in England, but failed to get one anywhere. Congratulations on producing such a fine magazine.

I should love to have been able to send for a yearly subscription, but I am sorry to say that I am unable to do so as we are not allowed to send any money out of the country.

I wonder if any of your readers would like to exchange a monthly copy of EBONY for an English magazine. If so, I would be only too glad to oblige.

IDA LAITY  
Camborne, Cornwall, England.

I, like most Africans, am an admirer of colored Americans. I have been one of the lucky people who are able to get EBONY since August last year. My copy goes from one friend to another after I finish reading it, and by



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## LETTERS

Continued

the time it comes back to me, it is in tatters.

Your November issue interested all of us. First, we loved the cover-girl and story about Lena Horne. I don't know if she knows it, but she has many fans among the African cinema-going people.

Secondly, your story on "The World's Worst Slums," made us see that people in other countries knew about our troubles here. It is a pity that Rev. Scott was not allowed to say more on a subject on which he is so well informed.

MARJORIE MALINGA.

Sophiatown, Johannesburg, S. A.

Having read your "mag" for twelve months, I feel I must write you. As you can see I am a serviceman in Germany, my EBONY being sent to my home address.

I have found EBONY one of the finest "mags" in print. I admire your articles and what you are doing for your race. I have no color bar or racial feelings. During the war I met many hundreds of Negroes, have spoken and had many drinks with them. I found them quiet, unassuming and educated and they were delighted to chat with me on various subjects. Being interested in your good old jazz, I have met many of your great Negro artists.

Lastly, I am English and white and any Negro girl or boy wishing to write as a pen friend, please do.

SYDNEY G. BLATCHFORD.

R. A. F., Gutersloh, Germany.

The March issue of EBONY was sent to me by a friend. It's a splendid magazine and should become international. Hundreds of friends of the colored companies who were drafted to England watch with keen interest the new achievements and furthering of complete emancipation.

Little did their soldiers realize how very much they endeared themselves to the people and how highly they were estimated.

I would like to pay tribute to the first company of engineers who entered our village and social activities, also to Q. M. Service Co. 3198 and 3199. Many pleasant and unforgettable hours also were spent in our homes, and we feel a deep sense of kinship concerning all your people. Thank God we were not reared to discrimination against so great and magnificent a race as the Negro.

EDNA M. BISCOMBE.

Cornwall, England.

## VOICE OF SMALL TOWNS

I have just finished the June issue of your magazine, and as always I found it a very stimulating pleasure. There is just one criticism I have to make concerning your magazine, and that is: Why does your magazine focus attention always on New York, Chicago and Hollywood? It is true that there is a great deal to be told about these places, but other towns like to be mentioned once in awhile too.

The people in the places I've mentioned (the ones you write about) are always prominent people. Come on, EBONY, give us small towns a break. We poor people like to be heard about too.

JOYCE ROGERS

Milwaukee, Wis.

## RACETRACK HONORS NEGROES

The 55-day meeting just ended at the beautiful San Mateo racing course, known throughout the country as Bay Meadows, drew the attention of every real American sport fan when they honored three Negroes by naming the feature race after them in the last week of the running.

This is a sign that maybe Negro jockeys may again sit astride racing steeds on the American turf. Bay Meadows, with its General Manager



"Don't be silly, Miss Sweet,—I'm not chasing you, I'm running to the cooler for a couple of Pepsi-Colas!"



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Here it is! A dress made for romance...  
an exquisite, dressed-up dress to transform  
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## LETTERS

Continued

William P. Kyne, has long been noted for his fair-mindedness toward the Negroes on the turf.

It wasn't any wonder when the gent on three different occasions had the day's program honoring Negroes.

One of the first to be honored, and marking the initial time in the history of the modern American turf that one of our major tracks honored a Negro, were Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, owners of one of the leading cocktail clubs in San Francisco. The following day they selected Miss Lena Horne, lovely screen star, and Herb Jeffries, singer, also was given the distinguished honor. I am sending a picture of Lena as she



awards Walter Litzenberg the winner's honor for booting home Makeup Man first.

EDWARD A. ROBINSON  
San Francisco, Calif.

### PROTESTS SEXY ARTICLES

After repeated appeals from the EBONY circulation manager, I finally renewed my subscription. In the first issue to come to me (May, 1948), sure enough, there it was again. I regret the need to call attention to the EBONY article, "How the Beguine Began."

EBONY comes here to a Catholic seminary where nearly 200 Jesuits are preparing themselves for the priesthood. Among the seminarians we have an active club dedicated to the cause of interracial justice. We place your magazine in the library where it is eagerly read by all the students. All these men will soon hold widely influential positions in Catholic high schools, universities, and parishes. We want to acquaint the people who come under our influence with the fine qualities of Colored Americans, and one of the simplest ways to begin is to recommend EBONY.

My experience in dealing with men has taught me that while they do need very much more of the right kind of sex instruction, they as a rule do not need sex stimulation. People need plenty of stimulation in other lines—social thinking, the practice of natural justice and Christian charity. All of this EBONY provides very well.

Young men need plenty of stimulation toward regarding Negro women with the respect which they so richly deserve as human beings, and children of God. Does your present article provide that desirable sort of stimulation?

No wonder Protestant and Catholic leaders in Martinique could unite in trying to suppress the beguine. No one has to be much of a theologian to recognize that "promiscuity" or the serious and purposive "simulation" or "pantomime" of promiscuity is against the very law of nature. If the beguine is fundamentally a religious dance, "one of the ritual forms" of African religion, do you think that God is pleased with that sort of worship? If we can believe the Bible, God has used some pretty harsh words in condemning phallic rites. Is the beguine a praise-

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If you want people to like you—get off to a good start by being well groomed and well mannered at all times. In your favorite blue jeans or your loveliest evening gown—you'll click with the crowd if your manners and grooming are s-m-o-o-t-h! The art of charm and being well groomed is not a deep dark secret, but merely a matter of paying attention to several important "points" so ordinarily neglected! Take advantage of the new

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She was Rouge, the English noblewoman turned buccaneer—Rouge of the sea-green eyes and the flaming

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Upon receipt of the attached coupon with a 3 cent stamp, you will be sent a copy of Frank Yerby's exciting new romance "The Golden Hawk." You will also receive as your first selection for \$1.00 your choice of any of the following popular current books:

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EVERY other month you will receive the Club's descriptive folder called *The Bulletin*. The Bulletin describes the forthcoming two months' book selections. It also reviews about ten additional titles (in the original publishers' editions selling at retail for \$2.50 or more) available to members at only \$1.00 each. You may purchase either or both of the two new selections for \$1.00 each, or neither. In any case, you may purchase any of the other titles offered for \$1.00 each.

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When you see your copy of "The Golden Hawk"—which you get for 3 cents—and your first \$1.00 selection; when you consider these are typical of values you receive for \$1.00, you will be more than happy to have joined the Club.

DOUBLEDAY ONE DOLLAR BOOK CLUB, Garden City, N. Y.

Mail This Coupon for your copy of  
"The Golden Hawk"

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## LETTERS

Continued

worthy sample of that native African culture which the Negro historians are trying so heroically to bring to the attention of the world?

When men fall into the anti-Christian attitude of looking upon sex as an unhinged outlet for mere animal passion, it is no wonder that the subject is regarded with a hush-hush attitude in polite society, spoken of hypocritically behind closed doors.

We ought to regard sex as a specifically human activity. Sex is the uniquely passionate and adequate external expression of the most sublime, exclusive love possible between two human beings. It is a joyful and pleasurable creative act with effects of the utmost value for the whole human race in time and in eternity. Only with that attitude can we discuss sex without shame, and provide ourselves with the necessary motives for free, moral, human living. But your article professedly condones the anti-Christian picture of sex. If you condone the unhinged erotic lust of Martinique natives, how can you be so righteously indignant about the uninhibited blood lust of an American lynching party?

What is the ultimate purpose of EBONY Magazine? If it is to promote interracial goodwill, you have in this instance failed to accomplish that end. Goodwill, mutual respect and love can have a solid foundation only in those who have respect for the whole moral law. I do not accuse you of trying to undermine the moral law intentionally. I take it for granted that such is far from your real intention, and that you will understand the friendly spirit in which this constructive criticism of mine is offered. But whether intended or not, the evil effect of such an article is there.

If you excuse this sort of article on the score that it sells EBONY and makes bigger profits, then how do you explain your indignation at the pragmatic moral compromising of white people on the whole question of discrimination and segregation?

I do not write this letter to pass myself off as more righteous than other men. We all have our sins; but none of us should try to explain away his sins as being exuberant, uninhibited, frank, fearless, joyful forms of self-expression. When EBONY has several times lashed out at the sin of segregation as practiced by some white Catholics, I have never protested. Rather I am ashamed, and strike my breast, and join you in your indignation.

If the immoral articles (and some of the advertising) are not cut out of EBONY in the future, I will allow my subscription to lapse again and for all time. I hope that such will not be the case.

REV. RICHARD A. SCHUCHERT, S.J.  
West Baden Springs, Ind.

### "MR. CHARLEY"

After reading your editorial, "Challenge to Mr. Charley," it appears to me that you are overlooking the real roots of Negro oppression. True, "Uncle Tomming" is an enormous hindrance to our people in the struggle for equality and first class citizenship. But please don't put the negation of this evil as a prime goal, then shove into a mere secondary category, legislation like anti-poll tax laws, anti-lynch laws and the like. With the advent of these, "Uncle Tomming" will quickly exit.

As for the roots of Negro oppression, let's not immediately point to the lower class southern white, who in this case is "Mr. Charley," and say that 'it's all his fault.' It can't be this easy for he is but a dupe with a badge of superiority doing dirty work for someone else. Instead, let us probe deeper and ask ourselves: just who profits by Jim Crow? Surely not the poor white sharecropper. Our only answer can be the white, and strangely enough, Negro bourgeoisie.

Then after lambasting "Uncle Tomming" in a really wonderful editorial,

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## LETTERS

Continued

your temperamental magazine goes on to flaunt before the readers' eyes, the "House and Hobbies" of three of our most unknown "Uncle Toms," namely: Clarence Muse, Louise Beavers and Lillian Randolph. With the omission of the other personalities in that article, you could quite aptly have entitled the spread, "The Advantages of Uncle Tomming" instead of "Hollywood Homes."

New York, N. Y. FRED HOLLOWAY

Your "Mr. Charley" editorial in the April issue of EBONY contained an appropriate but unfinished comment on race relations. It logically stated such matters as being, "a question of everyday campaigning against the common, routine, almost minor evidences of prejudices in virtually every phase of American life."

I am a white reader who has unhappily observed interracial hatreds and prejudices. The minuscule-minded character who contemptibly flings the other man's race in his teeth, only seeks to veneer the rottenness of his own composition. He tries vainly to hide the vulgarity of his own origin. What does the Negro do at this point? His impulse is to be aroused to fury and futilely rage at fate. Next, he slowly simmers down to sullen and implacable vengefulness. He becomes anti-white and shows it every chance he gets.

Would it be human to hate the Negroes because of unfortunate encounters with him? I can remember the well-dressed colored subway rider in New York City who a number of times spitefully crushed me against the window as I sat there, while a car full of colored folk looked on in impassive-faced indifference. There was the big, colored bus driver in San Francisco who clamped the side exit doors on every white passenger who left through them. He carefully held them open when a Negro passenger would get off.

It might be human to hate these people, but not sensible. For I can recall other, more pleasant things. I remember the colored laborer who shared his cookies and ice cream with me many years ago when I adventured through Ohio. I shall not forget the kindly Negro who gave me his sheepskin-lined gloves to wear on a subfreezing outdoor truck-unloading job, long ago, while he worked without them in that Chicago weather. I pleasantly remember the two colored girls in Los Angeles who on a bus, by night, considerably watched for my destination when a newly-arrived stranger in that sprawling city.

You see, it can work both ways. I have been able to find understanding of the Negro. Let the Negro find a better realization of his feelings toward the white man. But first he must analyze and evaluate the nature of those feelings. There are white people who are incapable of doing so. The Negro should not descend to their level. If he does, both white and black are lost.

RENE R. DE ROUGOMONT

Chicago, Ill.

### WHO'S FURNITURE?

In your April issue of EBONY, there was a cut of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chase of this city, showing the interior of an apartment located at 4002 W. Adams Boulevard. Your article stated that the property in question was owned by Mrs. Lillian Randolph, which is not true. At the time the picture was taken, the furnishings in the said apartment belonged to and still do belong to me. I've owned it for three years and have been caused considerable embarrassment by this article.

The property is for sale and I feel that it might hurt the sale as persons to whom I have shown the place have said: "This is Lillian Randolph's place. I saw it in EBONY."

Due to the circumstances, I demand a retraction in your next issue.

HALLIE DALE JOHNSON WALKER  
Los Angeles, Calif.



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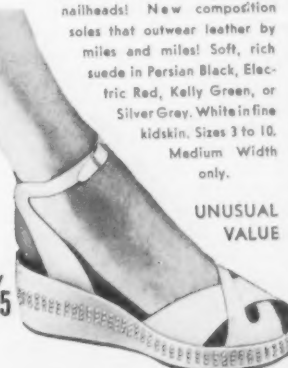
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# BAD SKIN?

Stop Worrying About Pimples, Blackheads and Other Externally Caused Skin Troubles

Try Skin Doctor's Amazing Simple Directions and Be Thrilled with the Difference—  
Often So Much

## CLEARER IN JUST ONE SHORT WEEK

By Betty Memphis

Have you ever stopped to realize that the leading screen stars whom you admire, as well as the beautiful models who have lovely, soft white skin, were all born just like you with a lovely smooth skin?

The truth is that many girls and women do not give their skin a chance to show off the natural beauty that lies hidden underneath those externally caused pimples, blackheads and irritations. For almost anyone can have the natural, normal complexion which is in itself beauty. All you have to do is follow a few amazingly simple rules.

Many women shut themselves out of the thrills of life—dates, romance, popularity, social and business—only because sheer neglect has robbed them of the good looks, poise and feminine self-assurance which could so easily be theirs. Yes, everybody looks at your face. The beautiful complexion, which is yours for the asking, is like a permanent card of admission to all the good things of life that every woman craves. And it really can be yours—take my word for it!—no matter how discouraged you may be this very minute about those externally caused skin miseries.

Medical science gives us the truth about a lovely skin. There are small specks of dust and dirt in the air all the time. When these get into the open pores in your skin, they can in time cause the pores to become larger and more susceptible to dirt particles, dust and infection. These open pores begin to form blackheads which become infected and bring you the humiliation of pimples, blackheads or other blemishes. When you neglect your

skin by not giving it the necessary care, you leave yourself wide open to externally caused skin miseries. Yet proper attention with the double Viderm treatment may mean the difference between enjoying



*A screen star's face is her fortune. That's why she makes it her business to protect her complexion against pimples, blackheads and blemishes. Your face is no different. Give it the double treatment it*

*needs and watch those skin blemishes go away.*

the confidence a fine skin gives you or the embarrassment of an ugly, unbeautiful skin that makes you want to hide your face.

The double Viderm treatment is a formula prescribed by a skin doctor with amazing success, and costs you only a few cents daily. This treatment consists of two jars. One contains Viderm Skin Cleanser, a jelly-like formula which penetrates and acts as an antiseptic upon your pores. After you use this special Viderm Skin Cleanser, you simply apply the Viderm Fortified Medicated Skin Cream. You rub this in, leaving an almost invisible protective covering for the surface of your skin.

This double treatment has worked wonders for so many cases of external skin troubles that it may help you, too—in fact, your money



will be refunded if it doesn't. Use it for only ten days. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose. It is a guaranteed treatment. Enjoy it. Your dream of a clear, smooth complexion may come true in ten days or less.

Use your double Viderm treatment every day until your skin is smoother and clearer. Then use it only once a week to remove stale make-up and dirt specks that infect your pores, as well as to aid in healing external irritations. Remember that when you help prevent blackheads, you also help to prevent externally caused skin miseries and pimples.

Incidentally, while your two jars and the doctor's directions are on their way to you, be sure to wash your face as often as necessary. First use warm water, then cleanse with water as cold as you can stand it, in order to freshen, stimulate and help close your pores. After you receive everything, read your directions carefully. Then go right to it and let these two fine formulas help your dreams of a beautiful skin come true.

Just mail your name and address to Betty Memphis, care of the New York Skin Laboratory, 206 Division Street, Dept. 328, New York 2, N. Y. By return mail you will receive the doctor's directions, and both jars, packed in a safety-sealed carton. On delivery, pay two dollars plus postage. If you wish, you can save the postage fee by mailing the two dollars with your letter. If you are in any way dissatisfied, your money will be cheerfully refunded. To give you an idea of how fully tested and proven the Viderm double treatment is, it may interest you to know that, up to this month, over two hundred and twelve thousand women have ordered it on my recommendation. If you could only see the thousands of happy, grateful letters that have come to me as a result, you would know the joy this simple treatment can bring. And, think of it!—the treatment must work for you, or it doesn't cost you a cent.

## BACKSTAGE



OR MONTHS we have been hoping that we would not have to write this but the time has finally come when rising costs of printing, paper, distribution and extended editorial coverage forces EBONY to announce the magazine will sell for 30 cents per copy henceforth. Much as we have tried to stem the tide of zooming prices by trimming publication expenses and seeking additional advertising revenue, income has not kept pace with costs. The result is that EBONY must join with other leading magazines such as Life, Saturday Evening Post, Time, Newsweek, Look and Women's Home Companion in asking readers to help cover the burden of skyrocketing prices of publishing.

In hiking EBONY'S cost to the customer, we have tried to whittle the increase down to a minimum. In contrast to Life which has doubled its rate within two years and some of the Negro newspapers which boosted their price upwards by 50 per cent, EBONY'S increase is a modest 20 per cent which we hope will help cover a 33 per cent hike in our printing bills in the past year. For the time being, our subscription rates will remain the same to allow readers a chance to take advantage of the low price per year. With additional income, EBONY hopes not only to cover these higher costs but to bring readers a bigger and better magazine.

As an example of what coming issues hold, the September edition will feature a sensational story of a Negro woman foot doctor who cares for some of the top glamour girls of Hollywood. Guaranteed for entertaining reading is a photo-article, "When They Were Young," showing what some of Negro America's outstanding leaders were doing and how they looked at the age of 20 (National Urban League executive secretary Lester Granger as a track star in college is the example above).







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# EBONY

VOL. III, NO. 10

AUGUST, 1948

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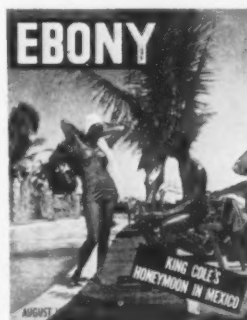
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## CONTENTS

LAW	
Crusade Against Jim Crow	13
<i>Californian uses anti-bias law to war on anti-Negro restaurants</i>	
Bronze Gang Busters	19
<i>Philadelphia detective squad has remarkable record of convictions</i>	
ENTERTAINMENT	
King Cole's Honeymoon Diary	24
<i>Popular trio leader tells of his trip to Mexico seaside resort</i>	
Dark Angel of the Violin	41
<i>Eddie South is most talented night club fiddler in nation</i>	
Movie Maids	56
<i>Hollywood turns out flock of menials in single month's films</i>	
BUSINESS	
Rum	29
<i>It's volatile brew whether in glass or in politics</i>	
Furriers	63
<i>Half dozen colored dealers do \$500,000 business annually</i>	
HISTORY	
The Saga of Ma Sanders—By Polly Carr	43
<i>She was secret liaison for MacArthur in Philippines war</i>	
SPORTS	
Auto Racing	26
<i>Mel Leighton is top money winner on West Coast speed tracks</i>	
ART	
Shoe Polish Painter	55
<i>Chicago bootblack is an artist in his idle hours</i>	
DEPARTMENTS	
Letters and Pictures	4
Fashion Fair: The Dress-Suit	52
Photo-Editorial: The Right Not to Discriminate	60
Date with a Dish: Corned Beef and Cabbage	62

## COVER

The King Coles, as the couple was known to Mexicans during their honeymoon trip south of the border, are both well inured to photographers' flashbulbs by years of night club experience (Marie being a former Duke Ellington vocalist). They found it easy to tolerate EBONY'S roving editor Griffith Davis, who followed them down to Mexico and kept his cameras trained on their every move during the week's vacation. See Page 24.



## EBONY PICTURES

The following is a page-by-page listing of the sources of photos in this issue. Where several sources are credited, the listing is from left to right, top to bottom:

13 to 18—LLOYD HAMLIN	36 to 39—LARRY BARBIER	TURES. UNIVERSAL-IN-
19 to 23—JOE COVELLO	40—LARRY BARBIER	TERNATIONAL, MONO-
24—GRIFFITH DAVIS	JULIAN F. MYERS	GRAM
25—ED WERGELES—B.S.	41, 42—WAYNE MILLER	59—WARNER BROS., PAR-
26 to 28—GRIFFITH DAVIS	43 to 51—LARRY BARBIER	AMOUNT PICTURES
29—PUERTO RICO OFFICE	52 to 54 — STEPHEN	61, 62—WERNER WOLFF—
OF INFORMATION, LI-	DEUTSCH	B.S.
BRARY OF CONGRESS	55—GRIFFITH DAVIS	63—ACME, MICKY PAL-
30—EARL LEAF — R.G.	56—RKO — RADIO PIC-	LAS
PUERTO RICO OFFICE	TURES. UNIVERSAL-IN-	64—JOHNA PEPPER — P.
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BRARY OF CONGRESS	57—EAGLE-LION, UNIVER-	65—ACME, HOWARD
31 to 35—EARL LEAF—R. G.	SAL-INTERNATIONAL	LAMBERT
	58—RKO — RADIO PIC-	66—STEPHEN DEUTCH

Abbreviations: B.S.—Black Star; P.—Pix; R.G.—Ralpho-Guillumette

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Jim Crow sign flaunted by San Diego restaurant despite California law against discrimination is viewed by Negro couple reflected in window. When Gordon Stafford told one proprietor that sign cannot bar Negroes, she replied: "Well, it used to until Eleanor Roosevelt came along and passed all those laws."

## CRUSADE AGAINST JIM CROW

Californian uses ironclad anti-bias law to war on restaurants that bar Negroes

IN 22 STATES of the nation, refusal of a restaurant to serve a Negro is illegal and constitutes an offense punishable by fines ranging from \$10 to \$100. Only Vermont, nine Western states and the 16 Southern and border states do not have anti-discrimination laws.

Yet in those states that do forbid public places to maintain a color bar, the laws are notoriously ignored, violated and unenforced. Biggest reasons: 1) difficulty of getting foolproof evidence of Jim Crow; 2) reluctance of police to aid in law observance; 3) hesitance of Negroes to make test cases out of their mealtime. Big cities such as Chicago, Detroit and Pittsburgh are among

the worst offenders in barring colored patrons from white-owned restaurants.

In scattered communities across the country, however, there are occasional crusaders who are doing courageous grass-roots legwork in challenging longtime color barriers in dining rooms. Typical is conscientious Californian Gordon Stafford, whose amazing one-man campaign against cafe Jim Crow has won \$100 fines from six eateries in San Diego in the past year (one case was settled out of court, another lost and six more are pending).

The white 35-year-old ex-factory manager has a simple, effective technique of testing and

suing places that discriminate. He enters a restaurant to eat, is followed by a Negro couple who sit at a nearby table. If the colored couple is refused, Stafford informs the manager of the law and sues if the cafe still insists on maintaining its color bar.

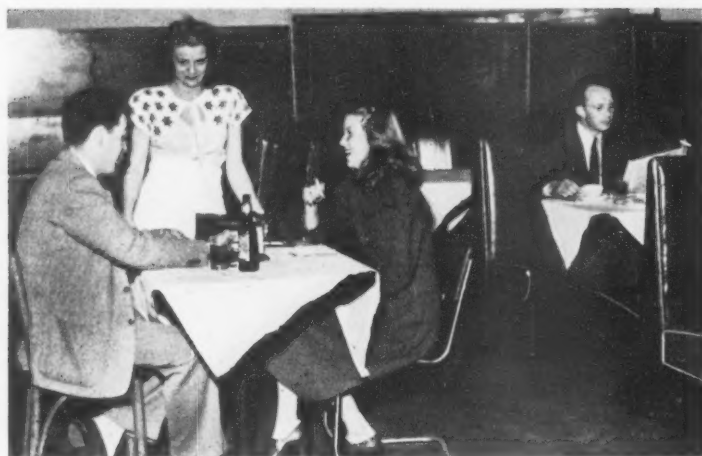
Stafford has worked out his anti-Jim Crow campaign to a science. He started in San Diego by testing some 200 places, found 33 that refused to serve colored diners. He then went after them one by one with the help of California's ironclad anti-bias law. Results to date have been remarkable in educating white cafe owners as well as Negro diners on the law.



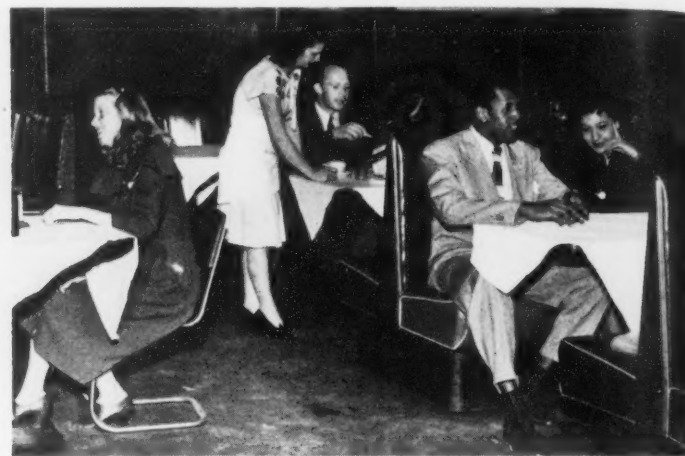
**1** Already in restaurant eating lunch, observer Gordon Stafford (right) watches Robert Gurst enter with Carol Johnson to order meal.



**2** Taking seats in booth next to Stafford's, tester Gurst and escort await arrival of waitress. Stafford runs column on civil rights in local Negro newspaper.



**3** Waitress takes orders of young white couple nearby. Legally restaurant testing is not entrapment but merely arranging to have witness to observe law violation.



**4** Courteous attention is also given Stafford by unsuspecting waitress. He found only one in eight Negroes aware of state law against restaurant discrimination.

## EATERIES LEARN TO OBEY LAW AFTER PAYING STIFF FINES

LATE ONE NIGHT 15 years ago, Gordon Stafford was the only customer in a third rate all-night cafe in San Diego. A Negro youth entered and, without sitting down, asked for a bag of potato chips. A rack full of the bags was standing in plain view. "The waitress," Stafford relates, "slowly—with supreme insolence—drawled: 'We ain't got no potato chips.' At that point I demanded a bag of chips and she reluctantly sold me one which I, in turn, sold to the Negro. The waitress, apparently feeling that I had humiliated her in front of the man, was livid with rage. So was I."

Young Stafford never forgot the incident, dates his concern for race relations from that day.

Today, heading the NAACP civil rights committee in San Diego, he is a relentless campaigner against eating places that discriminate. California's anti-bias law, authored by a prominent San Diego Negro leader, Edward Anderson, has been an effective ally in his all-out war. In all cases won, the restaurant must pay a \$100 fine, court costs and attorney's fees—a total of not less than \$150. Few cafes can stand that expense very often.



**6** Manager called by irate waitress tells couple that the restaurant "reserves the right" to refuse service to anyone, informs couple Negroes are not welcome.



**7** Interrupting, Stafford informs manager he's wrong and explains California's law which forbids not only color bar but distinction in service.





**5 Refusing to serve Negro couple**, waitress angrily passes them up while Gurst vainly tries to get her attention. Stalling is most common tactic to discourage Negro patronage. "Few whites have the nerve to refuse service point blank," says Stafford. He feels hasty departures by impatient Negroes are victory for Jim Crow.

When Stafford started his drive, restaurant men tried to intimidate him and charged that he was operating a money-making racket. But in the second suit brought to court, the judge ignored the attempt to discredit Stafford and brushed over the defense's plea that Stafford was guilty of entrapment. "It was a trap that could easily have been avoided," the judge ruled.

Discrimination ranges all the way from outright refusal of service to stalling tactics, Stafford and his testers found. Signs that say "We Do Not Serve Colored People Here" have no

more validity than a sign proclaiming "I Reserve the Right to Ignore Traffic Laws," Stafford states. Recently his testers tried out a place which displayed a sign "No Colored Trade Solicited." The Negro customers walked past the sign and were served promptly and courteously.

State liquor laws which provide all customers must be served and full measure given in every drink have been employed by Stafford. One place served Negroes when threatened with the loss of their liquor license because of refusal to sell to colored drinkers. In another Stafford

noted the bartender putting only a quarter ounce of Scotch in a drink for a Negro friend. He mentioned the ruling that a full ounce must be used in a drink. The bartender became angry and poured about three ounces in the drinks, "probably the stiffest drinks for the money ever served in San Diego," Stafford notes.

Testers make a practice of revisiting eating places that have been sued once. Most no longer practice discrimination, finding once they begin serving Negroes that their business is not hurt at all.



**8 Summons is served** on manager in civil suit filed by Gurst and his escort against the restaurant. It cost \$10 to file each case, plus attorney's fees.



**9 Victory is won** in Municipal Court which awards Gurst and Miss Johnson \$100 and lawyer fees. Stafford congratulates couple. Cafe manager is glum.

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Interracial policy at San Diego night spot, the Cinnibar Cafe, has singer Mary DePena working with white band. When colored patrons first started coming, owners were fearful whites would stay away.

## HE FINDS TOO FEW NEGROES

**M**ORE DIFFICULT than opening all-white restaurants to Negroes is getting them to use these facilities, according to Gordon Stafford. After making his first survey of San Diego eateries, he declared: "So far as two-thirds of the restaurants in the city are concerned, the only reason that Negroes don't eat in them is because they don't go in."

When testers were served just as white patrons, observers waited until they left and then approached the waitress or the manager and casually remarked: "I'm glad to see that you serve Negroes when they come in." Replies ranged from "I don't know why we shouldn't" and "Their money is as good as anyone else's" to the dining room owner who said: "After all, we are here to serve the public. But do you know I have been in business for five years and this is the first time a Negro has come in."

Stafford insists: "It takes more nerve than most whites have to refuse service to a person who is looking him in the eye. The man or woman who walks confidently into a restaurant, sits down and picks up a menu, will seldom be refused. But one who pauses in the doorway, glances around apprehensively to see what effect he is creating, then hovers over a seat as though it might be hot, will surely be refused if the waitress has an atom of prejudice in her. This sort of behavior is so lacking in dignity that it makes it easy for the most timid waitress to gain the upper hand."

The majority of the white public is indifferent to Negroes dining in the same place, seldom pay any attention to them, Stafford has found. In some cases testers found white diners volunteering to be witnesses in court cases against discriminatory restaurants.

Part of Stafford's campaign is against those Negroes who insist they have "too much pride to go where they are not wanted." He derides this argument, declaring: "It takes no pride to confine oneself to the ghetto. But it does take pride and courage to break out of it and take one's rightful place in the world."

Stafford insists that responsibility for eliminating Jim Crow in states where civil rights laws exist is largely up to Negroes. "What good is such a law if people don't seek its protection?" he asks.

In no case has there ever been any physical violence experienced in making tests. The one case which Stafford lost was due to false testimony by white patrons. Stafford, two Negroes and a Mexican had entered a cafe and ordered beer. The waitress brought two bottles, put them in front of Stafford and the Mexican. They promptly gave their beer to the two Negroes and ordered two more. They were refused. In court the restaurant owner had witnesses to testify that they were all drunk and that one of the party had pinched the waitress. "Their testimony," admits Stafford, "was actually more convincing than ours and we lost the case."

"While all the cafes that were sued have changed their policy, they





Mixed audience at Cinnibar Cafe enjoys music. Hesitant to welcome Negro customers at first, club now advertises in two local Negro newspapers. Receipts have doubled in the year since the new policy was inaugurated.

## WILLING TO CHALLENGE BIAS

haven't done it with enthusiasm," Stafford states. "They have done it out of a healthy respect for the law and they have learned that the presence of Negroes does not hurt their business."

On a national scale perhaps the most effective job similar to Gordon Stafford's is being done by the Committee on Racial Equality, organized six years ago in Chicago to combat discrimination through non-violent direct action. Instead of taking court action, CORE members (an estimated 8,000 of both races in seven states) send an interracial group of 15 to 300 to fill up the seats in an offending restaurant until management capitulates.

Familiar with all the usual dodges, members are supplied with envelopes for samples of bad food if served, as it has been in several cases. These envelopes are turned over to the board of health with a request for the withdrawal of the restaurant's license because they serve tainted food. In one Chicago Loop spot where the waitress served food so badly burned that it could not be identified, the manager was summoned. He couldn't speak a word of English. Out came the little white envelopes and in went the food. "We'll have to take it to the board of health," someone remarked. Immediately the manager became vocal and voluble.

Perhaps the most extended campaign of CORE was against a downtown restaurant which for more than a year resisted every move by every tactic from serving food from a garbage pail to forcible eviction. To refute the owner's claim that other places also followed a policy of discrimination, CORE did a survey of downtown eating places and put out a throw-away with a list of "Fifty Loop Restaurants Which Do Not Discriminate." The restaurant finally capitulated.

Campaigns to enforce civil rights statutes are not always easy. In Cincinnati recently such a drive resulted in many eateries closing their doors to "make repairs." The President's Committee on Civil Rights has criticized most state anti-bias laws as being ineffective because "the penalty is usually small and the chance of being prosecuted a second time is slight. The civil suit for damages and the misdemeanor penalty have proved to be inadequate sanctions to secure the observance of these laws." The committee recommended "additional means, such as the revocation of licenses, and the issuance of cease-and-desist orders to administrative agencies to bring about wider compliance."

A prominent Chicago attorney, Elmer Gertz, has proposed that municipalities around the nation use their licensing power to force compliance with civil rights laws. He argues in the National Bar Journal: "A violation of one civil rights is contrary to the highest public policy and against civic morality. On principle, the authorities should refrain from licensing persons and places habitually violating the civil rights laws."

## Are you in the know?



### When it's a foursome, what's your policy?

- ☐ Fair play
- ☐ All's fair in love
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Even if he's snareable, don't be a male robber. Play fair. Avoid hurting others.

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- ☐ Samba know-how
- ☐ That starry-eyed look

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Open house musicals held in Stafford home for servicemen of all races and ranks is still going strong after six successful years. A common love for classical music converts the most prejudiced, creates new respects.

## RECORD SESSIONS IN HIS HOME HELP CRACK RACE PREJUDICE

A NEGRO SERVICEMAN asked a USO hostess where he could go to hear good music. He was leaving for active duty overseas at midnight. Shamefacedly, the hostess told him she knew of no place in San Diego where he would be welcome.

When the hostess told Gordon Stafford of the incident, he remembered the waitress and the bag of potato chips. Popular open house musicals held twice each week in his home soon became interracial. "Men of every race, every rank and from every part of the country came to our house for the record sessions," Stafford recalls. "The one thing they had in common was love for good music. No matter how prejudiced they were when they arrived, they couldn't spend many evenings in congenial atmosphere with Negro servicemen who knew as much or more than they did about their favorite subject without learning to respect them as individuals. A great many close friendships resulted from these contacts. That they were often between recently-prejudiced Southern whites and Negroes soon ceased to be worthy of comment."

After VJ Day Stafford went to Des Moines to manage a precision casting company. He sought Negro workers for the plant but did not get the cooperation of local colored leaders until he met a hotel porter who had become a skilled mechanic in the local plant during the war. But when the plant cut back at the war's end, the Negro had to go back to his porter's job. Stafford enlisted his aid and before long 13 per cent of the working force in the plant was Negro. Stafford made a survey of the colored workers and found that their production record was higher than that of white workers.

Two years ago on his return to San Diego he embarked on his civil rights project. Stafford is married to a school nurse, who, he says, "fortunately doesn't object to my spending almost every night chasing Jim Crow around." As for his friends, he says he's converted them to his position against discrimination. "People who weren't convertible never became my friends."

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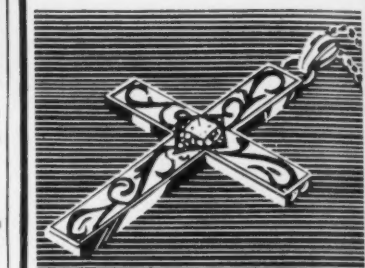
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Patrolling dirty alley, detectives Jasper Fore and Nathaniel Taylor check warehouse with their flashlights. Recently they discovered burglar coming down from roof into shoe storage house. He was stealing shoes nightly and selling them. In five years of operation, all-Negro squad has recovered \$25,000 in loot.

## BRONZE GANG BUSTERS

Philadelphia's detective unit  
rolls up impressive record of  
92% convictions in all arrests

**H**IGH on the list of the nation's ace crime fighters is Philadelphia's crack all-Negro 36-man "Special Investigation Squad." First plain clothes unit in the country to be commanded and manned entirely by Negroes, the intrepid bronze gang busters prowl the entire city matching wits, courage and bullets with con men, thugs, dope peddlers and killers—white and Negro.

Five years ago when first organized, the veteran cops—all onetime rookie foot-patrolmen and radio prowl-car officers—were taken off the beat and given just one assignment: cut down crime in South Philly. How they did was left up to them as long as they produced results. In their five years, they have nabbed five

murderers, more than 500 burglars, 31 dope law violators, more than 25 confidence men and dozens of bandit gangs.

Boss of the outfit is Sgt. Richard H. Anderson, tall, rangy 61-year-old peace officer who has spent some 39 years on the force. Winner of some 20 commendations and a gold certificate for bravery, the uncle of contralto Marian Anderson was given a free hand with the squad, his men and methods to be of his own choosing. He was responsible only to the police superintendent. He went about his job quietly, efficiently and relentlessly. The enviable record of 92 per cent convictions in the 7,500 cases handled in five years has proved the effectiveness of Anderson's men in enforcing the law.



Checking teletype at headquarters is routine with detectives when they come on duty. Ages of squad members range from 32 to mid-fifties. Six are vets, all but three married and nearly a dozen have gone to college.



Roll call by Sgt. Anderson is taken at one o'clock each afternoon. He then dispatches afternoon shift men to different sections of the city. Working two shifts, Anderson's unit prowls streets by car and foot until 3 a.m. They seldom remove hats.



Phone report from police precinct back to headquarters is made every two hours. Men working on assignment stay on 36 hours straight through, grabbing only a few moments' sleep. Detectives always travel in pairs.

## HOW SPECIAL SQUAD BROKE UP A GANG OF PHILLY MUGGERS

"OUR OLD FOLKS aren't safe on the streets any more," said Sergeant Anderson, slowly. "We've just received another complaint from the Superintendent's office that a gang of muggers attacked another man down in South Philly last night. A 70-year-old man is in the hospital with his skull cracked. He was robbed and beaten only a half mile from here."

The men of the Special Squad squirmed. For weeks they had groped unsuccessfully for a lead on the four young toughs who prowled the city after sundown, playing it safe by preying only on old and crippled people unable to fight back.

"We've got their descriptions," Anderson con-

cluded. "I think it's about time we brought them in."

Despite an intensified search, the thugs struck again three days later, beating and kicking an elderly man into unconsciousness and leaving him in an alley to die. Luckily, he had been discovered and sent to the hospital where an emergency operation saved his life. In less than two months since the hoodlums had started their operations, a dozen people had been sent to the hospital.

Then, while pounding the beat one raw, rainy night last February, Ted Jordan and Robert Sandling, young officers of the Special

### THE CASE OF THE MISSING REVOLVER



Shooting suspect James Moses, 27, is picked up in bar 20 minutes after allegedly firing gun.



Finding no weapon, officers go to his home to search for gun. Moses is charged with shooting at two people who live in same house.



Wife is questioned but denies husband used gun. Complainants charge Moses shot at them in argument over bushel of coal.

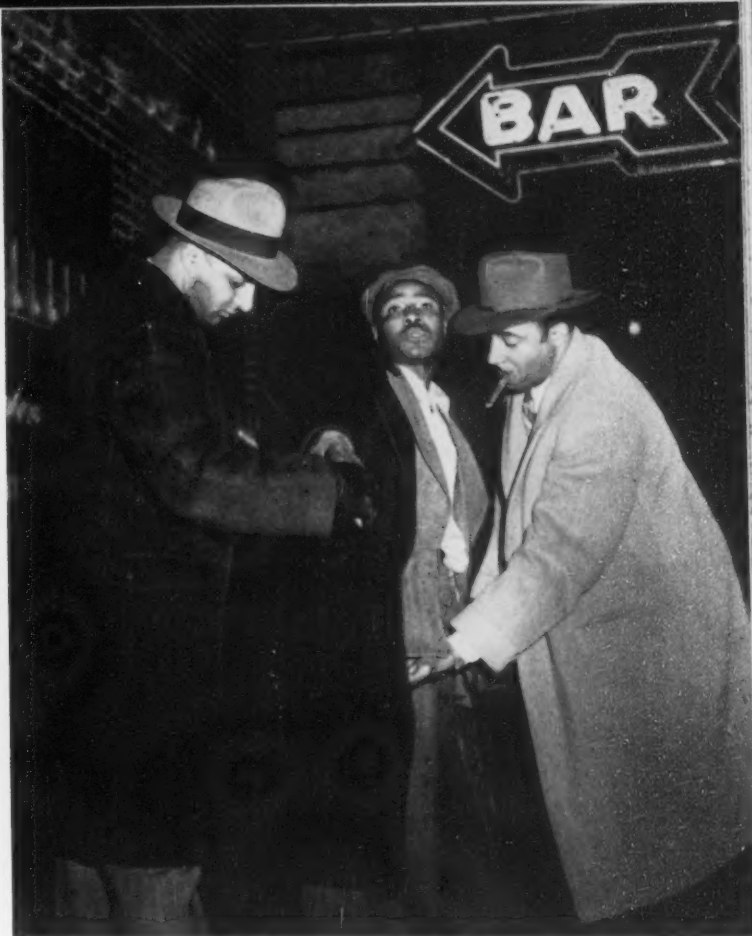


Bullet holes are found in balustrade of stairway but Moses insists on innocence. Empty cartridge shell was found near bullet hole.





In court previous day's arrests are arraigned before magistrate with Anderson's men appearing to present evidence. Here detective Robert Sandling shows knife taken from man in surplus army uniform. Special squad finds knives and lye are favorite weapons.



Frisking suspicious bartly, detectives search for concealed weapons. Often when patrolling detectives come upon a fight, they wait until participants go home for weapons and then they swoop down on them to make arrests.

Excited truck driver explains to detectives how brick was hurled through window in attempt to steal vehicle. Assignment of the men is rotated to different districts so that criminals cannot recognize them too easily.

Squad, had a hunch.

"Let's stroll over east on Broad Street," said Sandling. "They haven't worked there before. Maybe they'll try new territory tonight."

Hours passed as the two detectives prowled the lonely streets and alleys. Suddenly, as they turned a corner, Jordan grasped his partner's arm.

"Down there, Bob!" he exclaimed.

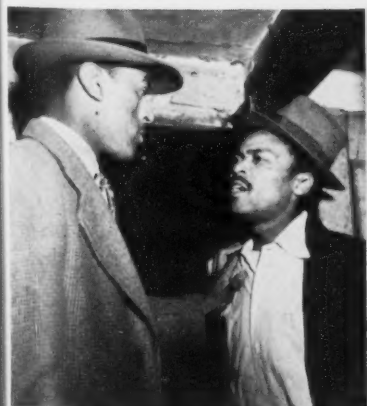
Fifty yards down the street four figures bent over a prone body lying in the gutter. "They're giving him a real workout," Sandling shouted as they sprinted down the street. As they heard the approaching officers, the group broke and

scattered. Three quickly responded to Jordan's crisp command to halt but one dashed off. Sandling started in pursuit. Intently on taking the fleeing man alive, he passed up several chances to fire.

For half a mile Sandling was led in a wild chase up alleys, over fences, through narrow streets but the detective slowly closed the gap between them to a few feet. Then Sandling launched a flying tackle and the two rolled over in a scuffling heap. In a few seconds it was over and the subdued thug marched meekly back to join his gang in a patrol wagon.

Mugging cases are typical on the blotter of

Sgt. Anderson's "Special Squad." They have been so successful in cutting down statistics on minor crimes that in their first year civic leaders and businessmen's associations urged police officials to increase their numbers and extend their operations throughout the city. As a result the squad has grown three times its original size. Two years ago the entire group was publicly commended by Public Safety Director James Malone for nabbing a gang of bandits who preyed on South Philadelphia merchants in the winter of 1946. The merchants on their part gave each squad man a government savings bond.



More grilling by Detective Samuel Wyche fails to shake Moses' alibi that he doesn't own a gun, never fired revolver.



Taken to headquarters, Moses is held firmly by back of trousers to prevent escape. Detectives own cars; city pays gas and oil.



Further search of Moses uncovers cartridges matching calibre of shell found in hallway. But Moses still denies shooting.



Questioning by Anderson follows. Moses pleaded guilty in court, got three year sentence.



Lonely subway concourse has been scene of many crimes, including rape, murder, theft. Special watch is kept on mile-long concourse near City Hall, especially on sunny afternoons when people prefer to use streets or very late at night.



Covering slum areas, "Special Squad" teams tramp through streets early and late. Although eight-hour shifts are custom, "The boys and I forget that business when there's something hot," says Anderson. "You can't do police work by the clock."



Month's collection of weapons picked up from delinquents range from piece of raw iron to a leather blackjack. Sgt. Anderson is especially interested in razor-sharp sword-type cane used by dandies of past years. All represent sentenced criminals.

## ANDERSON'S BRAVERY IN DAWN PISTOL DUEL WINS GOLD AWARD

**H**HEADQUARTERS of the hard-working, fast-thinking "Special Investigation Squad" are located in the heart of the Quaker City at the 19th Police District. They might seem a little cramped but Sgt. Anderson has declined with thanks several offers of larger offices elsewhere. Except at roll call, he says, the room is rarely occupied by more than two or three officers for the outfit's record is not maintained by long, wordy reports on vice and crime but rather out on the firing line in the haunts of criminals.

Several of the squad, all chosen personally by Anderson, are young "second generation cops" whose fathers served with the sergeant in by-gone days. They include at least one ex-newspaperman, a former undertaker, several one-time mechanics and a half dozen who were once successful businessmen.

Anderson's brilliant record as a policeman is topped by his 1930 feat of shooting and killing "Alabama Joe," an insane wife slayer in a dawn pistol duel. After the murderer shot his wife in a jealous rage, he also wounded a Negro officer who came to arrest him. The criminal then barricaded himself on the second floor of a three-story house and for eight hours held off more than 75 policemen in a pitched battle in which several hundred shots were fired and two more cops wounded. Detective Anderson crawled up an alley in the rear of the killer's home, smashed the glass and entered the ground floor through a window. He waited until the first streaks of dawn and then started up the stairs. He met "Alabama Joe" on the steps and slew him in the exchange of shots that followed. He got a gold certificate of bravery from Mayor J. Hampton Moore for his bravery.

Anderson was selected in 1932 as one of three Philadelphia officers to organize the newly-formed Crime Prevention Bureau. This experiment in combatting juvenile delinquency proved highly successful. The system of paroles, recreation and rehabilitation worked out for young culprits 18 years and under is credited with turning many a potential gangster from crime.





Keeping fit is a fetish with Sgt. Anderson, who spends at least two hours every day exercising although he's 61. When he became a policeman 39 years ago, he was paid \$1.75 a day. His present salary is \$2990 annually.



At home Sgt. Anderson relaxes in a game of pinochle with his wife. Every year he spends his vacation at the Connecticut estate of niece Marian Anderson. Anderson believes essentials to good detective work are intelligence, patience.



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'(I Took A Trip On The Train and) I Thought About You'  
Capitol #15112
- 'Fine Brown Frame'  
'The Pig-Latin Song'  
Capitol #15032

## JULIA LEE



- 'That's What I Like'  
'Crazy World'  
Capitol #15060
- 'King Size Papa'  
'When You're Smiling (The Whole World Smiles With You)'  
Capitol #40082
- 'Snatch And Grab It'  
'I Was Wrong'  
Capitol #40028



# KING COLE'S #6NEUM66N

## DIARY



Alone at last on the terrace of our Acapulco suite, we found the tropical atmosphere and the love bug go together. We spent a lot of time strolling around just looking at the drowsy little town and the blue Pacific Ocean. I guess we were moony like any newly-married couple.

**B**ILLED as the biggest Harlem wedding in the last 25 years (with a price tag of \$17,000), the King Cole-Marie Ellington nuptials grabbed headline space around the nation. But when all the noise, champagne-drinking and picture-taking was all over, the two popular entertainers (he the noted trio leader, she a Duke Ellington vocalist though no relation)

were just another newly-married couple anxious to get off by themselves and enjoy their long-awaited honeymoon. They picked Mexico as an ideal spot where they could be sure of "the right kind of treatment" and could loaf, see the sights and enjoy the warm climate.

Boarding a Pan-American plane, they flew down to the land of frioles and tortillas to spend a delightful week both in the Mexican capital and at the famed seaside resort of Acapulco where they occupied a lavish terrace suite at the most expensive hotel in town (cost \$60 a day with meals).

While on his honeymoon, King Cole got the best wedding present he could think of—his recording of *Nature Boy* soared into the hit class (sales of over one million to date).

The Coles found their Mexican honeymoon as exciting as they had dreamed ever since they first made plans to head south of the border (they first met in 1946 when both played the Club Zanzibar in New York for a month). Accompanying them on their trip was EBONY photographer Griffith Davis who collected the picture album of these pages. King Cole himself tells of his trip in this honeymoon diary.







**Our Easter Sunday wedding** at New York's famous Abyssinian Baptist Church with my friend, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., presiding had my knees knocking. Crowds never phased me before but with 3,000 friends watching and photographers shooting off flashbulbs all over the place, the excitement was too much.



**We went out sightseeing** our first day in Mexico. Our Mexican guide Fred Gandara took us to see the big cathedral in the main square, called the Zocalo. He told us it was the oldest in the Western Hemisphere. The church was under repair because of the numerous earthquakes. We felt one lasting more than a minute while we were in the capital.



**Getting on the plane** at LaGuardia Field after spending our wedding night at a New York hotel was a big thrill. Twelve hours later we signed in at Mexico City's Hotel Reforma, which is the Waldorf of the town. The bell-boys quickly grabbed our six pieces of luggage and Marie's two fur coats, which she never did have a chance to wear because of the warm climate.



**At the bullfights** we saw four bulls slaughtered. Marie was upset when one bull gored a horse. I got a chance to make color movies with the camera Marie gave me as a birthday present last March. Then we headed back to our hotel to relax (left) from our tramping around.

**Marie went shopping** for some fine perfumes which are cheaper in Mexico than the States. Our guide took us to a shop where stuff like Chanel No. 5 sells for only 31 pesos an ounce (that's 21 cents a peso).





At the Mexico City airport, we sipped cokes while waiting for the plane to take us to Acapulco. The 1½ hour ride was really rough and some of the folks in the plane had to have help from the stewardess. From the plane we saw numerous brush fires.

## ACAPULCO HOLIDAY



Changing into comfortable duds at Acapulco where the temperature averages 86 the year around, we strolled around the grounds of our hotel which overlooked the city and harbor below. I got some nice movies here. We then headed for the beach (left) where we splashed around the water since neither of us is much at swimming.



Back at the hotel we enjoyed a couple of laughs over refreshing drinks. Marie had a pineapple-rum drink which comes in a real pineapple. It consists of pineapple juice, Bacardi rum, Bardinet rum and grenadine and sells for \$1.50. I stuck to my old standby—Scotch and soda.



We picked up picture postcards at the hotel shop to mail to our friends. Then we headed for supper. Running around town can really make you hungry.







**Down at the beach** the next morning, I gave Marie a piggy-back ride and then lounged around watching the waves. Later we headed out towards the cliff overlooking the Pacific where we paid a diver 10 pesos (\$2) and watched him jump from an 80-foot rock cliff into the ocean cove below (right). An American killed himself here recently trying to do the same thing. Of course, I took movies.



**Shopping** was a lot of fun at Acapulco. I got me a pair of white duck pants to lounge around in. Marie bought her sun suit at the hotel for 63 pesos. I got a bang out of the colorful shirts and shorts with the Aztec calendar on them.

**Going motor-boating** out in the bay where the Spaniards once used to anchor their galleons was our big mistake. We started off innocently and happily from the dock but we were drenched when we hit the big waves. Marie took to cover in a hurry (right).



Continued on Next Page 27



**Autograph hunters**, flattering as they are, find you—even on vacation. These fellows were the musicians in the hotel roof garden orchestra and I was glad to oblige. A few of the fellows thought that Marie was Sarah Vaughn. It was a good thing the musicians could talk English because our Spanish was sorry. About all we knew was how to say "Buenos días" and count up to ten.



**Back in Mexico City**, Marie wanted to complete her shopping. At a leather goods factory which supplies Saks and Tiffany in New York, she selected a genuine alligator bag which cost \$60.

**Heading back** for Mexico City, we had to walk through a disinfectant trough which is used to combat the hoof and mouth disease that has hit Mexico's cattle so hard. During our stay in Mexico we were careful of what we ate and drank only bottled water. We also got some ideas for the house we want to build out in California soon, Mexican architects sure have designed some swell layouts.



**The floating gardens** of Xochimilco are famous around the world and we didn't want to miss them. We made the 45-minute trip out to the suburbs by car and I picked a boat named "Maria" because it was nearest to Marie's name. Boats which rent for 10 pesos an hour are paddled around the canals lined with impressive willow trees. To celebrate our one-week anniversary, I bought a gardenia corsage for Marie from the Indian woman in the canoe. Not long afterward we were heading back to the hotel, having our tourist permits checked (above) and winging our way back to the States.



# RUM

**Volatile West Indies drink sure cause of hangover whether in glass or in politics**

**E**VER SINCE a Yankee sailing ship landed the first barrel of "strong water drawn from sugar cane" (as it was then called) in a New England port from the Caribbean three centuries ago, rum has been woven inextricably into the lore and legend of New World Negroes. Mixed with the sweat and blood of millions of slaves and later-forsaken freemen, West Indies rum has been a highly volatile brew whether taken in a glass or in politics.

In early days a hundred gallons or so could buy a slave on the African coast but it caused many a hangover to cruel planters when revolting blacks went berserk with their sugar cane machetes to fight frightful conditions on the Antilles plantations. Today rum is still creating political hangovers as Congress and Commons both attempt to solve the economic headaches of the colonial West Indies. Especially acute is Washington's dilemma in the virtually all-Negro Virgin Islands, where rum was an economic mainstay for 150 years before Robert Louis Stevenson penned his "Yo Ho-Ho and a bottle of rum" chanty.

Today as in the past, the economic future of Negroes in the Caribbean islands goes hand in hand with rum-distilling. In slavery days, it was a three-way trade: molasses from the Antilles converted into rum in New England, traded for slaves in Africa, exchanged for molasses back in the West Indies once again. In modern time the trading is rum for food and clothing. Centuries have changed the trade balance little: the West Indies are still short-changed.

What little advantages accrue to the islanders come in occasional cheating on quality, especially during the war when U. S. rum consumption boomed due to the liquor shortage. Much rum moved to the mainland with no aging. One island distiller reversed the process of putting rum in barrels. He put barrels in rum in the form of shavings which were filtered out after giving the pretense of aging through coloring.

**Bottled Government House Rum** is product of Virgin Islands Company's distillery. VI rums, which are 15% of total consumed in U. S., are dry and light-colored in contrast to dark, heavy-bodied types from Jamaica and Haiti. Fifth of six-year old rum can be bought for as little as 60 cents in Virgin Islands.



Chopped sugar cane is loaded on truck by Puerto Rico worker on first stop to rum bottle. Made into molasses it is shipped by barge to St. Thomas, which has not grown any sugar cane since before Prohibition days.





**Oxen-drawn carts** still haul sugar to crushing mills in Jamaica. Rum was distilled from sugar cane and rice as early as the days of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. Later rum-making was brought to the West Indies by Spanish settlers.



**Grinders** are fed cut sugar cane by overhead cranes. Christopher Columbus brought the first sugar cane to the West Indies. Colonists realized potentialities of rum by observing Negro slaves, who went on three-day benders.

## RUM INTERWOVEN IN HISTORY OF V

**W**HEN the first Danes arrived in the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas was practically deserted. They found only three Indians and to keep one of them from running away the first governor, George Iversen, cut off his leg. Later the Negro slaves brought to the island to grow cane were similarly treated. For trifling infractions, Negroes were chopped down a foot in height.

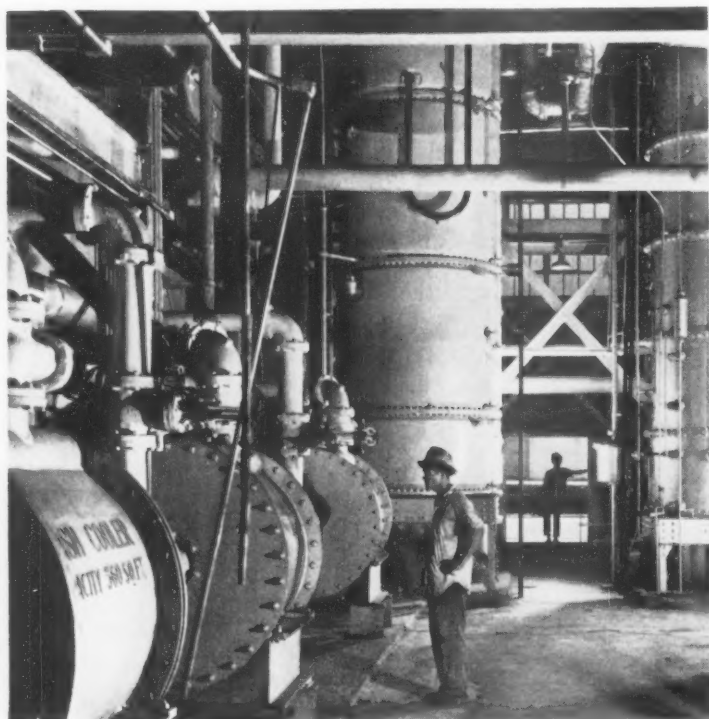
The rum the slaves turned out on St. Thomas soon became famous. It was known as *Mata Diablos*. The gagsters of the time said that instead of killing devils (as its name suggested), this rum filled the body of drinkers with them. The slaves who made the rum, feeding the cane into revolving cylinders, occasionally let an arm slip in too far. The cane juice would drip out mixed with blood. An overseer would rush over swiftly with an ax which was always handy so that the mill would not drag the body in after the arm and spoil a lot of rum-to-be.

When slavery was finally abolished, the profits went out of rum-

making and the plantation system collapsed in the Virgins. The islands were miserably poor and the total population declined about 50 per cent. When the U. S. finally bought the islands from Denmark in 1917 at an outrageously high price (\$295 an acre as compared to two cents an acre for Alaska and \$35.80 for the Panama Canal Zone) as a World War I defense measure, rum quickly became a problem for its new administration.

Prohibition put the Virgins in "America's poorhouse," as President Herbert Hoover put it in 1931. With the rum market in the U. S. lost, the island's only sugar mill closed down and starvation faced its 25,000 residents. President Roosevelt stepped in and set up a government corporation headed by Interior Secretary Harold Ickes to make rum despite howls from bluenoses who complained that "it disgraces Uncle Sam and makes him both a distiller and saloon keeper."

The company, turning out a popular brand known as Government

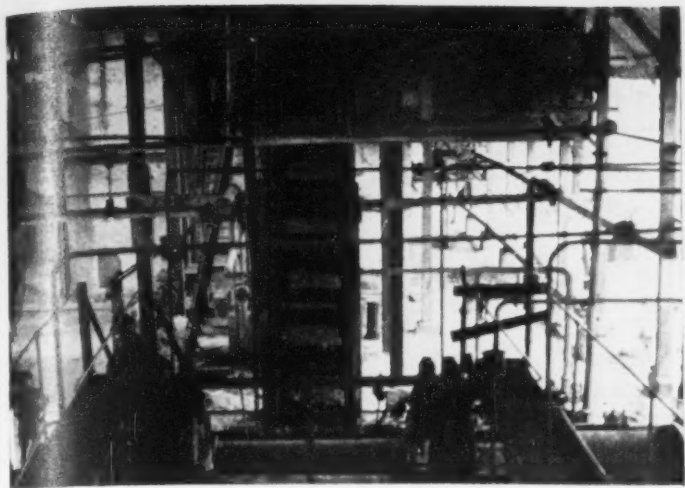


**Distilling** is process where fermented molasses is heated, spirits are boiled off and cooled by running water. In this raw form spirits are both colorless and unpalatable. Flavor is given with volatile oil and butyric acid.



**Aging** is done in charred oak barrels, lasts anywhere from five to 30 years. In Jamaica rums in contrast to VI brand, wash of water, molasses, scum and "dunder" (residue in still) is used for fermentation from six to 12 days.





Pulp is removed from crushed cane and juices pour into vats where processing begins. Virgin Islands rum is made of fermentation of molasses diluted with water. Ferment is controlled by sulphuric acid, which is consumed during process.

## OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

House Rum, thrived—particularly during the war when the mainland was whisky-short. But the VI budget is still in the red, mainly because the U.S. Treasury collects \$9 per barrel (a total of \$23,787,000 in 1944) from the Interior Department for the rum the islands send to East Coast ports. The Virgin's first Negro governor, William H. Hastie, has asked that the government stop shifting the tax money from one of its pockets to another and leave it in the islands instead. Up to now, the bill to accomplish this has reposed in a committee cubbyhole in Congress.

Puerto Rico has been getting back the \$9 per barrel for years, the Virgin Islanders point out, and there it amounts to much more money since the Puerto Ricans supply about half of all rum sold in the U. S. The NAACP has not pulled any punches in fingering the reason for disregard of the VI plea. "Denial of such return to the Virgin Islands is believed by many persons to be due to the fact that 80 per cent of the population is Negro," the NAACP recently told Congress.



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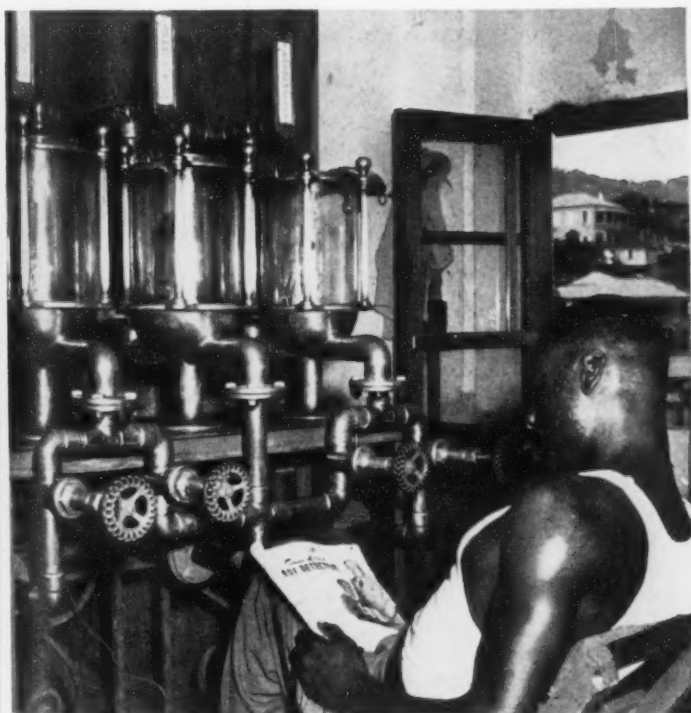
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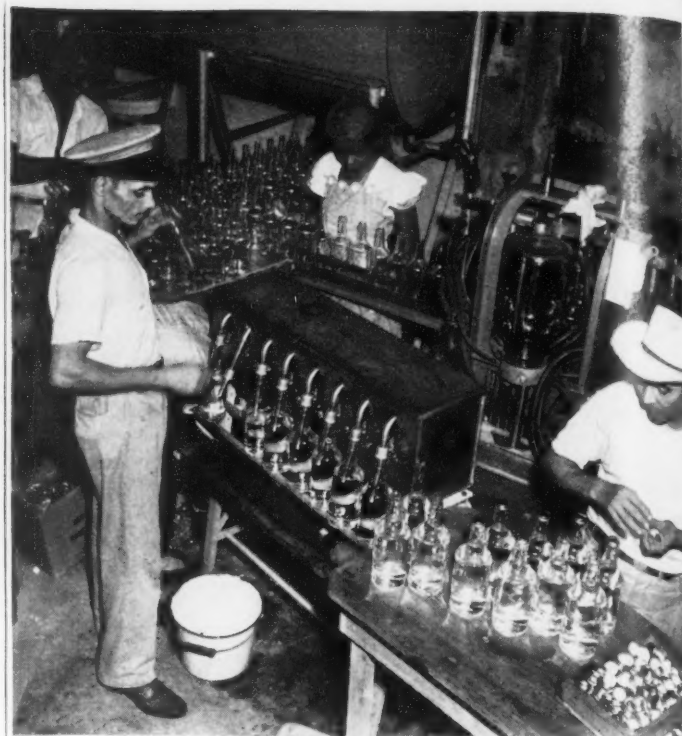
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WHITE	<input type="checkbox"/> All White <input type="checkbox"/> Black & White <input type="checkbox"/> Tan & White	<input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black & White <input type="checkbox"/> Tan & White	<input type="checkbox"/> Black & White <input type="checkbox"/> Tan & White	NONE

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Bottling is done on an assembly line basis in Virgin Islands distillery. Final product usually contains 77% alcohol. In West Indies most natives drink fine rums straight. Early product was named "Kill-Devil" in the islands.

## MOLASSES FOR RUM FOR SLAVES

THE BILLIONS of gallons of rum that flowed from the West Indies since the day in 1654 when the mainland colonies got its first rum from the Caribbean have been virtually an all-Negro product from sugar cane to bottle. Today the West Indies industry manned almost entirely by colored workers still dominates the U.S. market (less than 25 per cent of rum consumed is domestic).

Only threat to West Indies supremacy in the field came back in early New England days when the Yankees refused to purchase Antilles rum and insisted on molasses, which they distilled themselves under the name of Medford rum. Intemperance was rampant in the colonies despite drastic measures that included placing a large D on the shirts of chronic drunks. Massachusetts residents were required to register wherever they purchased rum, the only exemptions being ministers, public officials and Harvard men. But New England, nevertheless, floated in a sea of rum and taverns thrived near churches. Vestries at some churches met regularly to drink rum at the expense of the congregation.

But much as the colonials drank, the most lucrative sales were not made at taverns but along the African coast where rum was a medium of exchange for slaves. Here the rum trade became a virtual New England monopoly. It was profitable to spread the taste for liquor. Negro dealers were often plied with it and when properly tipsy, bargains in slaves were struck. The slavers often pushed up their margin of profit by watering the slave trade rum. Brought to the Indies, the slaves were put to work making more of the brew with which their freedom was bought, more rum to put other Negroes in chains.

Although exploitation of Negro labor is still rife in the West Indies, working conditions of rum makers—especially in the Virgin Islands—are fair. The distillery workers earn more than those on other islands. The Virgin Islands Company has 11 villages housing almost 500 families, employs 600 persons the year round and about 1200 during the grinding season. One complaint of employers is that many U.S. Virgin Islanders turn down menial labor in the distilleries because of their high school education, seek white collar jobs instead. During busy season, workers are occasionally imported from the nearby British Virgin Islands.

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## SUMMER DRINKS

### Cuba Libre

Juice and rind of ½ lime  
Cube of ice  
1 jigger rum  
Fill with cola

### Frozen Daiquiri

½ oz. lemon or lime juice  
½ tsp. sugar  
Dash maraschino liqueur  
1¼ oz. white rum  
Mix with fine cracked ice on electric mixer or shake well by hand.  
Pour unstrained into champagne glass.  
Top with a cherry.

### Bacardi

½ oz. lemon or lime juice  
½ tsp. sugar or a few dashes of grenadine  
1 jigger of Bacardi rum  
Shake with cracked ice and strain.

### Planter's Punch

1 oz. lemon or lime juice  
1 tsp. sugar  
1 jigger rum  
Shake well with fine ice and pour unstrained into 10 oz. glass.  
Decorate with slice of orange, lemon, cherry and sprig of fresh mint.



Popular at bars, rum is especially favored by the ladies in cooling mixed drinks like rum and Coca Cola. Yale University experts, however, found in tests that rum rated only below brandy in time taken to make imbiber drunk.

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Corinaldi of Howard designed this magnificent upsweep exclusively for Savannah Churchill, (and for you). She named it the *Mardi Gras* in honor of Miss Churchill's birthplace, New Orleans. She takes a thick, lustrous, circular puff of hair, topped with cluster curls; combs and pins Savannah's sable tresses into this striking formal effect. . . \$10.50

*Look your loveliest for 'him' on every occasion  
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**THE FIRST THING MEN** —and women, too—notice about you is your coiffure. You may be wearing the most exclusive gown. Your make-up may be perfection. But if your hair is thin or short, your coiffure nondescript, it may ruin the whole effect. So do what the glamour girls pictured here have done. "Makeup" your hair for every occasion—"Makeup" your hair for romance with *howard* real-hair attachments.

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**Exclusive! The Fiesta by Howard.** Corinaldi takes rich puffs of hair (pinned at top of crown) ending in a cluster of long, lustrous hanging curls; creates this romantic new, side-swept coiffure. Notice the utterly natural-looking effect. Impossible to tell this attachment from the real hair into which it is combed. . . \$12.00

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Single thick page boy with curls, **\$4.50**



**Exclusive! Double Page Boy by Howard.** Very, very smart, adds that young, young look and only Howard has it. Rich, luxuriant double roll. Can be combed and arranged into one thick roll. Hand made, of our finest, imported real hair in colors to match your own. . . . . **\$5.00**



**Exclusive! Upsweep Curls by Howard.** Most exciting new fashion in hair-dos. Created exclusively for Howard by Corinaldi. A luxurious array of rich, lustrous curls. Ultra-smart worn as shown, on side or low in back. Hand made, real hair, in colors to match your own. . . **\$9.00**



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Checking over his red-and-white "Riley Special" before a Sunday race, Mel Leighton opens oil valve in cowl. Motor with overhead valve rocker arm cost \$3500. Car competed in 40 events last year, garnered total of \$7,000 in prize money. He won seven "1sts," two "3rds" and placed 15 times under "5th."

# AUTO RACING

## Speedster Mel Leighton is top money winner on Los Angeles track

**I**N THE most dangerous sport in the world, auto racing, where good luck means living and bad luck means dying, a \$4500 Model B Ford "souped up" by a 35-year-old Los Angeles Negro mechanic has been matching speed with sleek \$15,000 Offenhauser racers for the past two years and streaking across the tape regularly in the money. Bronze, oval-faced Mel Leighton was the top prize winner at Los Angeles' Carroll Speedway in 1947 and rates No. 2 in point standings of the Western Racing Association.

With ten grease-stained years as a midget and racing car competitor under his belt, the husky Iowa-born Leighton is girding to leave California one day soon for that race every driver, mechanic and owner in the sport dreams about entering—the 500-mile Indianapolis Speedway classic. He feels he is ready, says: "The only thing that might stop me is the unwritten lily white clause of the American Automobile Association." Backed by driving greats such as Lou Meyers, Ab Jenkins and Rex Mays, he hopes to have his own speedwagon in the 1949 auto racing world series.

A familiar figure to the average 10,000-a-race crowd that follows the year-round Western circuit, Leighton relies on mechanical skill and "engine secrets" to get as much as 134 miles per hour out of his Riley motor mounted on a Model B Ford block. Although he placed in the money 25 times out of 40 races in 1947,

Leighton barely made expenses and says he's "not getting fat." His car was wrecked four times. Each wreck cost some \$300 in parts alone. His driver was hurt once with a broken arm.

Leighton has raced bikes, hot rods and cars since the days of the Stutz but he seldom drives in present races. Elected with the third highest popular vote to the Western Racing Association board of directors and named treasurer of the Southern California Timing Association (which sponsors races in the Mojave Desert), he felt that he might have been criticized for continuing as both official and driver. "Most drivers don't own their cars anyway," he explains. "If they did, they'd be too considerate during the race, wouldn't take chances for fear of ruining \$10,000 worth of motor. A good driver should be like a jockey. He wants to win, that's all. If something happens and the car cracks up, he walks home if he's lucky and the owner has the grief of picking up the junk, unbending it and making it run again."

Leighton has been in several crackups himself, the worst in 1940 when he turned over his car twice. In the first accident he broke three ribs; in the second when he went over a concrete wall he got 11 smashed ribs and three broken toes.

On and off during the last ten years, the auto racing wizard has worked a delivery truck

route to finance his hobby. He quit his job for the last time in 1946 and since has been living "off my car." In a garage and workshop in back of his aunt's home, he tinkers and experiments with his motor all week. He haunts junk yards, picking up a washing machine gear here and a motorcycle fuel line there and somehow puts them together to make a still faster car. "Money alone can't buy speed," he insists. "There's a certain combination you have to have or all the money you spend is for naught."

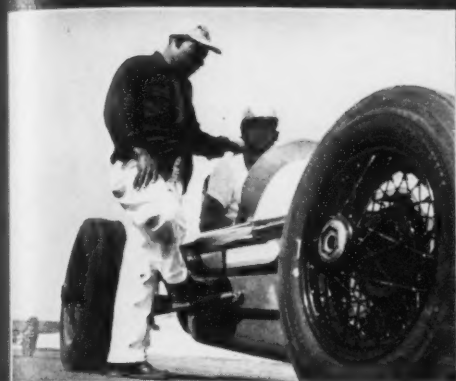
"A mechanic must be a doctor of motors. I have to be able to diagnose the trouble and fix it in three minutes. That's all the time racing rules provide for car overhaul."

Leighton has never had any racial trouble with anyone associated with racing. "As the only colored man in the sport, I've heard remarks, of course, but these came from fans in the stands. I've always had all the help and cooperation I've needed from white drivers and officials. In racing most of the guys judge you on your merits. I've yet to find a racer who's a 18-carat hee."

Though his dream of competing at Indianapolis may be frustrated by the AAA color line, he still gets one big kick out of the game. "It comes when I pull into small towns and wait while the local Georgia Crackers ask me who the racer belongs to. Then I watch their mouths drop when I tell them the racer's mine."



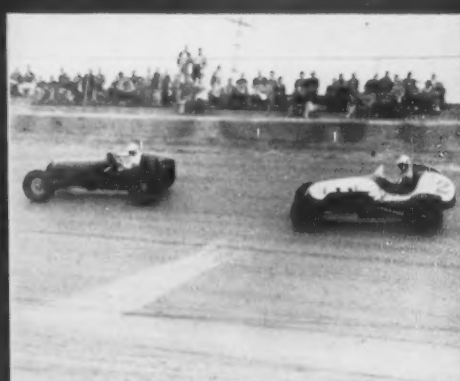
# DAY AT THE RACETRACK WITH MEL LEIGHTON



Final instructions are given white driver Fred Luce by Leighton. Driver gets 40% of winnings from \$4,000 purse in race.



At the starting mark, Leighton's car (No. 2) has favored inside spot by virtue of qualifying run of 114 MPH.



On first turn No. 2 is running second. Coast races average thirty 1/2 mile laps. Leighton took three firsts in row at Gardenia last year.



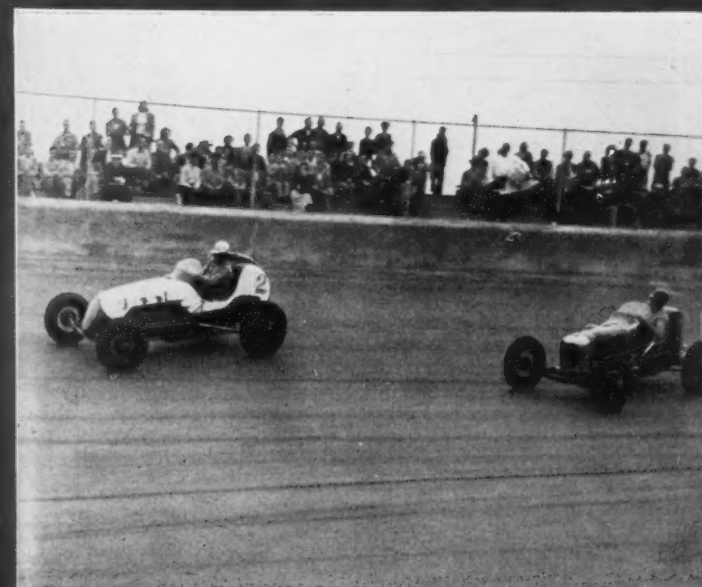
"Something's wrong" and driver Luce pulls into pits. Leighton is an expert at tearing apart motor and putting it together in hurry.



Working fast, Leighton checks motor. He has only three minutes to locate what's wrong. If he takes more time, he's automatically disqualified.



Ready to go again, driver gets advice from Leighton. Tires are Firestone racers, cost \$21.80, last maximum of two races, then are burned out.



On the 25th lap, "Riley Special" takes over 1st doing 112 MPH on curve. Outside tires on racing car are smooth so car can slide as inside tires with tread grip surface of asphalt track.



Winner of \$1,000 purse, owner Leighton and driver Luce are surrounded by admiring fans. Leighton has found no prejudice on tracks, says: "I've never run into anybody in the racing game who hasn't treated me like a man."

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Arriving at track, Leighton has his racing car in tow on trailer. Full day is put in testing and qualifying car before crowd arrives for race. First U. S. auto race was held in 1895 with winner covering 54 miles in 8 hours, 23 minutes.

## HE GOT RACING BUG

**A**MBITIOUS speed merchant Mel Leighton has been afflicted with the racing fever ever since the age of 8 when he stood glued to an Iowa State Fair racetrack and watched Barney Oldfield roar around a dirt track doing 52 miles an hour in his "Golden Submarine." The boy decided then and there he was going to be an auto racer. He fooled with pushcarts, scooters, bikes, Stutzes, Mercers, stripped-down Model A Fords and even raced his father's team of horses. When the Leighton family came to California, the father went to work for the Santa Fe railroad, an older brother studied music and Mel kept on fooling with motors.

Turning his cap around on his head like the idol of the day, Barney Oldfield, the young disciple hitched auto rides to California's Mojave Desert to watch midget auto races. Soon he was saying to himself, "I can do better than that." He put together his own "hot rod" and was soon competing.

"Every driver had a secret way he got speed from his 'hot rod,'" he recalls, "and we made sure the secret was zealously guarded. I raced amateur until 1939, strictly for trophies. Then I became a starter, then



Wheeling self-built racer onto track, Leighton gets aid from admirers. He works as treasurer of the nation's largest amateur speed group, the Southern California Timing Association of some 1,000 member drivers from 18 to 40.

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Pouring fuel into racer, Leighton gets hand from pit helper Bobby Strider. Menthol, a combination of alcohol and menthol, is used. It is twice as powerful as gas and costs \$1 a gallon. Racing cars average three to six miles per gallon.

## WHILE BOY OF 8

a timer for the outfit that ran the races. Finally when I was voted treasurer, I turned pro."

Leighton bought his first full-sized racer in Oakland, entered a 160-lapper. "I did 100 miles and then the motor died on me. I couldn't fix it. Seems to me in those days all I knew was how to turn on the key in the ignition. I had no right driving with so little knowledge." But he continued driving until the Army called him to teach radar as a sergeant in the 503rd Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft. When he got his discharge papers, he was determined to go back to his racing car and head for Indianapolis.

To date the position of the AAA has been: "New drivers must pass a driver's test before a license will be issued to them. If and when Mr. Leighton files an application, he will receive the same consideration as any other applicant."

Although a pro, he still holds his post as treasurer of the West Coast outfit that sponsors speed trials in the Mojave Desert. He got the job in 1939 and the members won't let him quit. He has supervision of its hospitalization insurance fund, gets a kick out of good-naturedly bawling out members for being late with their dues.



For early morning trials, car is hitched to truck and pulled in order to start. Racing cars have no starters in them, are towed to speed of 35 miles per hour before their engines catch. Mel wears British-made Cromwell crash helmet.

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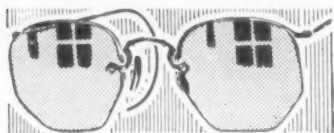
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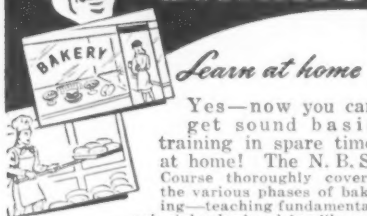
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In his shop Leighton is forever tinkering with his motor, has neighborhood friends who constantly stop by to watch him at work. Occasionally kids drop in to have tricycles fixed. Walls of his shop are covered with nude pinups.

## INDIANAPOLIS RACE IS HIS BIG DREAM

TALL, broad-shouldered Leighton, still unmarried and intending to stay that way, is wedded to the racing sport. Asked why he risks his neck (he still drives when he feels like it) to follow a sport that gives so little return, the fast-talking racing bug replies in one breath, "It beats working for a living."

Best answer may lie in the gold pot at the end of the rainbow—winning the cup and \$50,000 of fame and fortune at Indianapolis. But no little part of the answer is also Leighton's feeling he must rise to the top in racing as Jackie Robinson has in baseball because he is a Negro. He keeps trying to break through the AAA unwritten ban and at the same time uses his brains and home-made parts to crack the rule that "racing is a rich man's hobby."



Racing fan Jackie Robinson loyally follows Leighton's campaign to crack big league auto racing. Here Leighton explains to the Brooklyn Dodger star how duel carburetors and high compression head give car its tremendous power.

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Playing theme song, *Hejre Kati*, a folk song transcribed for him by the Hungarian composer Jeno Hubay, Eddie South demonstrates the technique that made him European idol. In Hungary one of his most loyal fans was pianist Artur Rubinstein, who invariably requested his favorite *Marcheta*.

## DARK ANGEL OF THE VIOLIN

Talented Eddie South is idol of night club fans on both sides of the Atlantic

**M**ORE THAN anything else in the world, the young violinist wanted the old man to hear his music. In his hand was an expensive instrument; in his heart were hundreds of melodies he could play with supreme mastery. Paris had danced to his tunes, Vienna had cheered his interpretation of Strauss, and in Budapest the gypsies themselves had taught him their rhapsodies. Straight from his triumphant European tour he had rushed home, only to find the old man had become deaf.

Then the doctor suggested the neck of the violin be placed against the old man's chest so

the music could be transmitted through vibrations. When the magic bow caressed the strings and the haunting strains of *Liebestraum* throbbed forth, the old man's face brightened and tears of joy streamed down his cheeks. Eddie South had repaid a debt to his grandfather, the man who started him on the road to fame with a \$3.50 fiddle.

Today, with a \$2,000 Gaillard violin and a Hammig bow worth \$300, the "Dark Angel of the Violin" is the idol of habitués of swank after-theatre night clubs on both sides of the Atlantic. He has entertained rulers of nations

and financial empires alike, has had two night clubs built especially for him and his sophisticated music.

Undoubtedly the most talented colored violinist in the nation today and a far cry from usual night club entertainment, South is still to be given his proper recognition in his native land although he has been the toast of the continent. Caught in the crackup of U. S. night club business, South is pondering a return to Europe where, when he left Amsterdam last, the dock flew floral banners spelled out: "We await your return in joyous anticipation."

In Chicago night spot, Eddie South fans listen entranced by his mellow tones. South speaks five languages which he picked up in Europe. One of most popular numbers in his version of French crooner Jean Sablon's theme song, in which he does monologue in French.



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Expressive face of Eddie South fits in with music when he plays. When doing *Hot Canary* (left), a sophisticated swing number, he's jolly and during French number he's thoroughly continental.

## SOUTH DEVELOPED TECHNIQUE IN EUROPEAN CONSERVATORIES

**E**VEN BEFORE Paul Whiteman and Ted Weems dubbed him the "Dark Angel of the Violin," Eddie South was demonstrating his musical wizardry. He began his professional career as a child prodigy on the stage of the old Vendome Theater on Chicago's South Side. Then, as a member of Jimmie Wade's dance band, he went to New York for a 12-month engagement at the Club Alabam.

Blues singer Marian Harris, the "Ethel Merman of her day," heard of the new personality on Broadway, auditioned South and signed him and an orchestra he organized for an overseas tour. After fulfilling their Paris bookings, contract complications developed and the unpredictable musical comedy star flounced off to England, leaving Eddie and his boys stranded. What seemed to be a tough break proved to be good fortune for South artistically as well as financially, for he not only developed his violin technique in French and Hungarian conservatories, but remained in Europe for four years as a smash hit.

Footloose, fancy free—and flat broke—in Paris, South managed to keep together his band, the Alabamians (not one of whom had even been near the Cotton State). One night while visiting a gypsy cafe, South borrowed a violin from one of the musicians, staged an impromptu floor show. In the audience was impresario Paul Santos, owner of eight cafes in Paris. Santos booked the Alabamians on the spot, decided to build a new club for the American orchestra he had just hired.

From that point, South held Europe spellbound with his enchanting melodies. He played in France, England, Switzerland, Belgium, Austria, Hungary, and Spain. At the Moulin Rouge one night, the son of the Maharajah Karputhala slipped a fabulous ring from his finger and pressed it into South's hand. Not knowing this was a gesture of highest appreciation for his music, South examined the jewel, handed it back. After much explanation via interpreters, he finally realized that the ring was a gift from the Indian nabob, accepted it with considerable embarrassment. He was often invited to play for the American banker Fred Bates, and it was through the financier that he met the Prince of Wales, now the Duke of Windsor, at the Vanderbilt home in Paris.

After four years away from the U. S., a malignant case of homesickness had developed, so with *adieu's*, *cheerio's*, and *aufweidersehen's* ringing in their ears, Eddie South and his orchestra sailed for home.

At Ben Marden's Riviera, Barney Josephson's Cafe Society Uptown, and Hollywood's Tropicana, the Dark Angel of the Violin packed the customers in.

The instrument Eddie South uses today is from the famous Wurliizer collection, one of three in the country. While playing at the Rubiyat in Chicago, using a violin he had purchased in Monte Carlo, the neck fell off. The next night he was scheduled to play at the College Inn at a testimonial dinner for Al Jolson. South borrowed a violin from the collection, played the guest appearance, and was so pleased with its resonant tonal qualities he bought it.



# THE SAGA OF MA SANDERS

Unsung war heroine was secret link between Manila captives and MacArthur with code messages in her lemon meringue pies

BY POLLY CARR

SHE WAS kneeling when the three little men entered the low-ceilinged room. She was praying, because she knew they had come to kill her.

The Japanese soldiers were silent as they entered. One caught her arm in a steely grip, twisted it until, with excruciating pain, the arm snapped from its socket. Another struck her on the side of the head with the butt of his gun. She was engulfed in blackness.

With returning light came sharp stabs of pain from her dislocated shoulder.

In his stiff-jawed Japanese accent, one of the soldiers accosted her: "You Millie Brown Sanders. You been going for Filipino, but you American."

The woman gathered her reeling thoughts. She felt curiously light-headed, angry, unafraid. "Yes," she said, "I'm Millie Sanders and I'm an American." She blazed at them. "And I'm proud of it!"

The soldier hissed with that peculiar Japanese intake of breath. "Ahhhhh! You been helping American soldiers to escape."

"What if I have?" she challenged. "Wouldn't you have done the same?"

They conferred briefly in their native tongue—to Millie a meaningless jabber.

Then the leader told her: "We've come to kill you. Face the wall."

The pain poured into her shoulder like a molten weight. She shook with helpless fury. "Go ahead and kill me if you're going to," she said. "I have to die someday. But I won't face the wall. I'm going to watch you do it, like a soldier."

One asked curiously: "Aren't you afraid?"

"No," she replied simply. "I'm not afraid."

Briskly, the Japanese soldiers rattled their guns. Slowly, they raised them to their shoulders. And, slowly, they lowered them again.

Chattering among themselves, they cast baffled glances at their quarry.

Gruffly, the leader addressed her: "We have shot many soldiers who cried for their lives. You do not cry. You are too brave a woman to die."

"This time we let you off," they told her. "But if you do wrong again, next time we must kill you."

Then, amazingly, they gave her the deep Japanese honor bow and backed respectfully out of her dungeon room.

While the training and experience of these three military Nipponese had left them with small regard for human life, it had also given them an almost reverent appreciation of courage, stoicism and endurance. Somehow, they were awed by the woman's fierce-eyed anger and towering height—above all, by her fiery courage.

Ma Sanders had played her last card. It had won her life for her.

Thus transpired one of many instances which were to make Millie Sanders one of the great heroines of World War II.

You have never heard of Millie Sanders. She is totally unsung. In the backwash of a violent war, she is living in quiet, dignified poverty in a bleak shack on an alley in the Negro section of Pasadena, California. The war is not over for Millie. Frequently, she does not know where her next meal is coming from, or where the money to pay her rent. Even the carfare to the Army's McCormack Hospital where she receives medical treatment is a drain on her meager resources.

You wouldn't think it to look at her today, but Ma Sanders is in bad shape. Suffering from the effects of beri-beri, contracted in a Japanese prison camp, she has diabetes and dropsy as well. A split knee-cap which never mended after a tumble into a fox-hole dodging Japanese bullets, plagues her every step. Perhaps worst of all are the injuries she received at the hands of her torturers, from the beatings, batterings and arm-twistings. These, too, have not healed properly.

From a generation engulfed with tales of valor and self-sacrifice, Ma's



Millie Sanders proudly wears campaign ribbon given her by General MacArthur. Before the war she operated best boarding house in Manila, with silk sheets on beds. Top business executives, Army and Navy wives were boarders.

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MA SANDERS *Continued*

story will emerge unique as one of the most trenchant of all time.

When war came on December 7, 1941, Ma Sanders was operating a boarding house in Manila. The huge Amazon of a woman, over six feet tall, had started it in 1935 after her marriage with an American army captain "went to pot." Her cooking was legendary and Army and Navy wives, government personnel, high salaried executives of Manila business firms clamoured to get into "Number 12 Nebraska Ermita—run by an American lady. Southern cooking. Mrs. Chester Sanders, Proprietor" (as her business card read).

A week or so after the Japanese entered Manila, a truck drove up to her place. It was bedecked with Japanese flags and carried armed, Banzai-shouting Japanese troops. Ma's boarders were ready.

They had wanted to leave with only small overnight cases. "There'll be everything there at Santo Tomas," they reassured Ma.

But Ma warned them: "They won't have anything there. I'm telling you. Now take blankets and plenty of clothes—yes, and mosquito netting, too."

The white lodgers had expected to be detained at Santo Tomas only temporarily. But events bore Ma out. Most of them were there for the remainder of the war. Some died there.

Ma took the precaution of concealing important papers belonging to her more wealthy or highly-placed guests. Shrewdly, she knew the Japanese would seize on such papers—would subject their owners to especially rough treatment.

These, along with her own important private papers, she carried in the hatband of a wide-brimmed, native straw hat. She wore that hat until the band and the papers inside became stained with the grime and sweat of those perilous years. All through the war, she wore that hat and guarded those papers.

Perhaps you are wondering why Ma remained free while her guests were interned. Simply because she was colored. The Japanese thought it would be an easy matter to propagandize her with tales of white injustice to her race in the United States.

Indignantly, Ma recalls a "secret book" of Japanese propaganda, and a film which was shown widely throughout Manila depicting the colored races in Africa, color discrimination in the United States—especially in the South—and which ended with a shot of handsome and finely dressed Negroes emerging from a New York church. Skilfully, the Japanese commentator pointed out that these people, well dressed, obviously civilized, were still treated as savages and slaves in their homeland.

This did not phase Millie. She was—and is—intensely patriotic. She says: "America is our country—the only country we know. Sure, there's good and bad people there, the same as anywhere. But it's the ignorance that makes the trouble."

She Attended Japanese Victory Banquet

NOT long after the Japanese interned all Millie's boarders, she was called to the door one day by unexpected visitors. They were white men... German civilian residents of Manila, respected businessmen who had been there some time. They had come on a mission. Having heard of the excellence of Ma Sander's place, they wanted her to run her boarding house for them. It was a very attractive proposition they presented—or so they thought. They promised her safety and protection throughout the war.

Ma was enraged. When she refused, they turned nasty.

"You have nothing to say about it, anyway," said one. "We'll force you to take us in."

"Force me?" Ma's eyes blazed dangerously -- as Ma's eyes are capable of doing. But she told them quietly: "Wait a minute, gentlemen. I want to show you a little something."

She left the room and from the garage lugged a five gallon can of gasoline. Dramatically, she plumped it on the hall floor.

"There!" she exclaimed. "If you make me run this boarding house for you, I'll lock the doors while you're asleep, saturate the furniture with this gasoline and burn us all alive."

She had convinced them she meant what she said, and their reaction



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At veterans' hospital Millie Sanders is regularly treated for injuries which she suffered at hands of Japanese soldiers. Because of technicality, she is not eligible for government pension. Her former husband was a Army captain.

## MA SANDERS Continued

was immediate, and half-admiring. "Woman, let us out of here! You're crazy!"

The Germans didn't press their plan to take over her boarding house. Whether they could have done so or not, Ma isn't sure. But the Japanese were not long in claiming the house, and soon the Mikado's troops moved in.

It was about that time that, listening to a forbidden radio, Ma heard the tired voice of captive General Jonathan Wainwright, speaking only a block or two away. She heard him adjure his troops: "Men, surrender to the Imperial Japanese Army." Again and again, he repeated the mournful refrain: "Men—do you hear me? At Ilo-Ilo . . . Baguio . . . Bataan . . . surrender." He called the names of the officers and the fortified points: "Surrender. No help is coming."

The Japanese conquerors held a triumphal banquet in the High Commissioner's Palace for Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma. Ma Sanders managed to be present. She wangled a job for the occasion in the Palace kitchen, where from a hidden vantage point, she overheard Homma deliver a historic speech.

To the assembled enemy dignitaries, who included many Filipino puppet leaders—President Jose Laurel among them—the erect, uniformed general declared abruptly: "Gentlemen, Japan has lost the war."

This, of course, brought a surprised reaction; but Homma continued: "If Japan had done as I advised—taken Australia and Hawaii first—we might have won the war. At least, we could have kept the United States busy for ten years. Now, we have the Philippines—but the back door is open. We have lost. And I am going back to Japan to retire."

Someone remonstrated: "We have Hong Kong, Singapore—the entire Orient. We have won the war—not lost it."

But—says Ma—Homma insisted. The son of a Japanese mother and a German father, he was bitter because he felt the Japanese did not trust him. They did not trust him, he said, because he looked like a white man. Soon the general left for Tokyo.

Ma could not be sure how long she would be unmolested, so she thought it best to make herself as scarce as possible. She went to live in what she calls a "dungeon," a gloomy, one-room cellar beneath a Chinese store.

Three refugees shared her underground dwelling. Two were American men: Ed Girard, a former official of the telephone company, and a Mr. Ritchie, a former contractor, who had lost a leg in the early Manila bombing. The third man was an Englishman, Kenneth Norton-Smith, whom they called Sonny because, at 37, he was the youngest of the lot.

The enforced inactivity in that cramped space eventually got on the nerves of the three white men and often Ma was forced to separate them just as their arguments threatened to develop into brawls. When they ran out of other things to argue about, they sometimes turned to fighting the Revolutionary War all over again.

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## MA SANDERS *Continued*

As the days passed, Ma decided it would be wise to put her unruly wards to work. She taught them to sew and they laboriously helped her make over the garments she had begged or borrowed from friendly Filipinos. These helped to clothe runaway American troops and ragged internment camp inmates.

"Those men got so they were sewing beautiful!" she recalls.

### Escape From A Japanese Sentry

**B**UT this was only a small part of Ma's work. More and more she became immersed in guerilla activities. Soon she was virtual leader of a band, half-guerilla, half-civilian.

Nights were her busiest time. It was then that she made her deliveries. In huge, woven bags—Filipino *bayones*—she placed everything she could scrape together. After midnight, she carried them to districts where she had observed American work-battalions. Friendly Filipinos would then smuggle them to the soldiers.

Ordinarily, she was careful to make these rounds only after midnight, because she had charted the activities of the Japanese guards and sentries. She knew they were very vigilant before twelve. After midnight, their watchfulness decreased.

One night, she made her rounds a little early. She had started before midnight, and a Japanese sentry saw or heard her as she passed stealthily through Wallace Field, her trusty terrier, Chickie, by her side.

Came that sound she had dreaded to hear—a hoarse voice calling in command. The sound was undistinguishable, but she knew what it meant: "Halt!"

She couldn't risk being caught on her rounds. She'd have to run for it. So in the dark, over the rough, pitted field, with her heavy burden, she started to run.

The sharp crack of a rifle-shot sounded—and a bullet whizzed by her head. Involuntarily, she dodged—slipped—her foot skidded over the edge of a fox-hole dug by some earlier combatant and she pitched forward. There was a flash of pain, and she lost consciousness.

The next thing she knew, something rough and damp was rubbing her cheek. It was her little dog, Chickie, silently licking her face.

There was no sound of pursuit; evidently the Japanese sentry had been satisfied with his one shot.

Her leg was sprained and her knee-cap was wrenched out of place. It took the last of her now-meagre funds for medical care. Painfully, limping on a cane, she boarded a street-car to go to her doctor.

As she wretchedly traversed the downtown street, she heard someone call her name. It was one of the Germans who had tried to persuade her to take them as boarders.

"Why, Mrs. Sanders," he exclaimed solicitously. "You are ill. You cannot walk. What are you doing riding the streetcar? Why do you not take a taxi?"

She had no wish to be friendly. She answered as coldly as possible.

Ma was ravenous and the scent of a street-corner vendor's savory wares aggravated her condition. However, she realized that to take aid from the enemy would be to implicate herself. Patting her nearly-empty purse proudly she said: "I have plenty of money." And, scowling, she added, "Besides, I want nothing from you. I'd eat grass first."

Later, along with the other internees, she did eat grass. She ate earthworms, June bugs, and potato peels from the Japanese garbage cans as well.

### Liaison With Underground Fighters

**N**OW began a particularly important phase of Mrs. Sanders' guerilla work—her liaison activity between the underground bands and the Americans in the concentration camps.

At that time, as many as 400 a day were dying at Santo Tomas and Cabanatuan—where, incidentally, her husband by now had been interned after taking part in the Bataan death march. With the help of a group of Filipinos, Lithuanians, Swiss, Russians and Greeks, she smuggled food, money and medical supplies. Code messages boosted the internees' morale by informing them of American victories. The vitally secret messages she wrapped in waxed paper and concealed in-



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HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST

FILED 200.6

A.F.O. 501  
1 May 1945

Subject: Award of Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbons.

To: Individuals named herein.

**COMPUTED EXTRACT**

Under the authority contained in War Department radiogram, 23 February 1945, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign ribbon is awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the Far East, to the following named internees who have, by their fortitude and courage, contributed materially to the success of the Philippine Campaign:

• • • • •

Willie B. Sanders

• • • • •

BY ORDER OF GENERAL MACARTHUR:

R. E. FRAILL,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

Award was given Millie Sanders on orders of General MacArthur. She was on the first plane-load of "worthy" Americans to be sent to Leyte and placed on ship to be returned to the States.

## MA SANDERS Continued

side the meringues of her famous lemon pies. The spot was marked with an innocent appearing toothpick.

Her "contact" inside Santo Tomas was J. G. Newgard, a young American businessman. He was an employe of the International Harvester Company. It was to him that she addressed her code messages, and he answered, also in code.

She gave him authentic military information from the guerillas, and he sent her news of the camp and internees. This was then relayed to General MacArthur's headquarters via a powerful guerilla radio station hidden in the hills. The Japs searched throughout the war for that station—tried endlessly to bomb it out of existence. They never found it.

In the code worked out by Ma and some of the guerillas, *grams* stood for dollars or pesos. Thus when Mr. Newgard referred to so many grams of medicine, he meant so much money. *Caballo*, the Spanish word for horse, meant American troops. *Quack-Quack* meant Japanese. To Ma, the clipped staccato language they used sounded like a duck's quack.

For a year and a half Ma remained outside, indefatigably carrying on her work. During that time, she was heartened to learn that internment camp deaths had dropped to three or four a day. Not that Ma wishes to take credit. But it is certain that her untiring efforts accounted in some part for the decrease.

Night after night, she walked for miles through the mosquito-infested rice-paddies, begging clothing, food, gathering supplies, sneaking back into the hills to exchange information with the guerillas. Day after day, she kept up her sewing, delivered food, carried medical supplies and secret messages to the internment camps.

One ex-internee who has not forgotten those days—the wife of a Navy civilian employe since returned to the States—recently expressed the sentiment of many. Hearing of Mrs. Sanders' present desperate plight, she sent a small check—all she could spare—but she said, from the heart: "I can never repay Mrs. Sanders for what she did."

She—and her Filipino foster-son—would secretly take the supplies to the house of a Filipino woman who lived near the prison camp. Workers who regularly took grass inside the confines of the camp for the beasts of burden, the big, lumbering carabao, could be persuaded to conceal supplies for the prisoners beneath the carabao's grass. Internees inside the camp knew just where to look.

No one who came to Ma for aid came in vain. Late one night there came a knock at the door of her dungeon. Outside was an American lieutenant in shocking condition. He was Lieutenant Eugene Burson

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## MA SANDERS *Continued*

of McKeesport, Pennsylvania. She had helped him before, but this time he was in particularly desperate straits.

Burson was a young American soldier who had escaped from Bataan and for awhile had got by with a false passport which listed him as a Lithuanian. Against Ma's advice, he had insisted on returning to his old room at the Congress Hotel to get a brace of Army pistols he had left there.

"If you go back there," Ma had told him, "you'll be caught sure. And if they catch you, they'll torture you. If that happens, son, I want you to think of me. I'll be praying for you—trying to help you."

One glance at Lieutenant Burson now was enough to show that Ma's predictions had come true. He had gone after those coveted pistols. The Japanese had arrested him for "interrogation"—had tried to make him admit he was an American soldier. But Burson had stuck to his story through beating and torture. He was a Lithuanian citizen.

So they had released him at last, and now, pathetically battered and broken, the lieutenant had sought out Ma Sanders.

He stumbled into the room, panting: "I did what you told me, Ma. When they tortured me, I remembered what you said. And then all of a sudden, I saw your face. You were smiling at me, Ma, as clear as life, and you were telling me: 'Don't give up, son. Don't give up!' And after that, I didn't feel any more."

The Lieutenant was exhausted and near death. He could walk no farther. Ma's injured knee necessitated her hobbling about with a cane, but she knew that, somehow, she had to get the American soldier out of her place or he would be discovered.

Ma prayed for strength to do what had to be done. From some source, strength came.

She threw down her cane, lifted the soldier onto her back and painfully, stealthily, staggered with him through the night to the home of a friend who could be trusted.

Lieutenant Burson disappeared after this escapade, and Ma never saw him again.

### Spokesman For U. S. Internees

IT was shortly after this that they came to kill her—the three Japanese soldiers who began by beating her savagely, and ended by bowing low and withdrawing in awed respect.

She was prepared for their coming. As they entered, she had no doubt that she would be killed. Her friends and co-workers in the guerilla band, huddled outside, did not doubt it either.

Outside the low dungeon room, they had gathered, awaiting the end. She had given them orders for the disposal of her body. When they saw the three Japanese leave, they crowded in, amazed, hardly daring to believe that she was still alive.

"Ma," one of them called timidly. "Are you dead?"

"No, no," Ma sobbed. "I'm not dead. But you won't know me when you see me." She had collapsed on the floor, sobbing in a sudden flood of emotion.

Battered and bruised, her eyes swollen, her arm hanging limp, she was carried into bed. For a long time afterward, Ma's eyes were poor and she could not raise her arm above her shoulder. She became very ill. Her usefulness to the guerillas was over.

She consulted with her friend, Newgard, inside the internment camp. He advised her to enter Santo Tomas.

Before she entered Santo Tomas, Ma Sanders took another piece of advice from friends. "Get a good stomach full of food before you go in," they had told her. So she feasted at the home of a Filipino friend—even imbibed some wine.

She arrived at the camp late in the afternoon. By that time, what with the combination of plenty of food and wine, she was a bit tipsy.

A group of her American friends had been awaiting her arrival all afternoon. They were clustered around the gate, excited and eager as kids waiting for Santa Claus.

Once established within the camp, Ma soon assumed a position as unofficial spokesman for the internees.

She maintained a code-contact with a Filipino bread-peddler who passed by the fence every morning. The bread man sang a chant—

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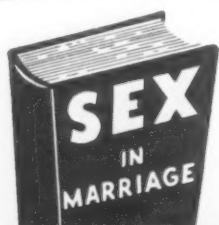
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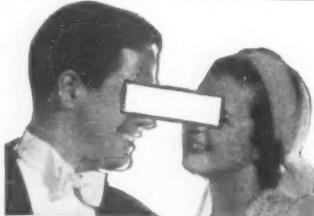
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## MA SANDERS *Continued*

ostensibly to advertise his wares, but actually to inform Ma of what was going on outside. Through him, Ma smuggled out a message about the atrocious food the internees were getting.

The guerrillas relayed the information by radio to General MacArthur, and the General took steps. A protest reached Emperor Hirohito.

This resulted in a commission of three investigators being dispatched to Santo Tomas to check up on conditions there.

The three gentlemen of Japan arrived, snooped about a bit, asked a few questions of the internees. They got non-committal answers. The Americans knew by now what penalty they could expect for expressing themselves too freely.

Not so Ma. Boldly, she greeted the investigators when they entered the dormitory where she had her bunk.

"Sirs!" she cried. "If you want to know the conditions at Santo Tomas, come down here!"

A terrified neighbor whispered: "Ma, don't! They'll kill you!"

But Ma whispered back a rationalization she often relied on in emergencies: "I don't care, I gotta die anyway."

She told the high Nipponese officials: "We've got no place to sit down. We're livin' in here like damn gypsies. There's no place for our dishes or pots and pans. In America, the Japanese get butter and eggs. Here, we're treated like dogs. Our food is only sop-sop. Come in the kitchen and I'll show you."

They followed her into the kitchen.

"Look at this rice!" she commanded. "It's full of husks. When you swallow it, it scratches your throat."

An investigator tasted the rice; hastily spat it out.

"Look at this basket of fish!" Ma threw the cover off it. It smelled to high heaven—it was too rotten to cook.

Apparently the investigators were impressed. The food improved for a short while after that. Then it got as bad, and as scarce, as before.

One day a dog came through the yard where Ma was sitting, studying her catechism. The dog was carrying in his mouth a big beef bone from the Japanese commissary!

The other internees awoke speedily from their half-snoozing state. There was a mad scramble after the bone.

Ma is still exultant as she remembers: "I was first! I was first!"

Now, she ordered the others: "Find some wood. I'll boil this up and make some soup." She split the bone in two and boiled it in a kerosene can with rice, radishes, banana root and pigweed.

It made soup for two meals. The men lying around waiting to die got a cup of soup to revive them. The dog, their mascot-benefactor, got his share, too. Later, the poor pooch probably went the way of all other domestic pets around the camp, and himself made stew for some starving human. But this day, Fido feasted. Ma insisted on it.

Despite her skill at scraping up victuals here and there, Ma lost 125 pounds in Santo Tomas.

## Triumphal Entry Of Americans

THROUGH the Filipino bread-messenger the prisoners one day learned that the American troops had landed at Leyte. "Caballos boom-boom at Quack-Quack," sang the messenger.

A thrill of anticipation ran through the camp, as the news spread through the grape-vine. They knew the Americans would come to liberate them. But some suspected, too, that the Japs were prepared to kill all the internees before help could come.

Word got out that the enemy planned a mass slaughter on Monday. The Americans arrived unexpectedly early—on Saturday.

By pre-arranged signal, the Manila city lights blinked three times. The internees, huddled in their rooms, hardly knew what to expect.

Then came the sound of the big tractors—surely the most wonderful sound on earth. The tanks closed in on four sides of the camp. Right through the walls they smashed.

A Filipino guerilla leader, Major Mendoza, was leading the way. Then came the spearhead of 250 Texas Rangers, tired, dusty, looking.

The Japanese had been taken by surprise, and now they began scurrying. There was one—a "squinch-eyed devil" Ma called him—who had steadily refused to allow relief food to be brought into the camp.



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## MA SANDERS Continued

"Let them die," he had ordered.

Hysterically, an internee grasped the arm of a six-foot Texas Ranger: "Get him," screamed the internee, pointing at the fleeing Japanese lieutenant. "Get him! Get him!"

The Ranger fired, and soon shots were ringing out all around.

The Japanese ran into the bushes. He had been shot seven times, but Ma said, "He was too mean to die."

The internees finally got sticks and chairs and clubbed him to death.

Toward dawn, a tall, goodlooking Negro sergeant came through the hospital ward—a picture in his hand. It was a picture of Millie taken years ago.

The sergeant asked: "Anybody know Millie Sanders? Anybody recognize this picture?"

"Yes!" cried Millie. "That's my picture."

"Well," he grinned, "I'm Claude Wilson, your nephew."

"Nephew!" she hugged him ecstatically. And then—"Nephew, do you love your Auntie?"

"Why, sure I do, Auntie. Why?"

"Then get me some food."

"All right—but let me cook it and give it to you a little at a time." Claude returned with bacon, and a dozen eggs.

She grasped the food hungrily.

"No, Auntie, give it to me," he protested.

They got a book from the library and burned it for fire. And despite her nephew's remonstrances, Millie gobbled it down.

Soon after, Ma was loaded onto an Army truck with a select few of the Santo Tomas internees to take the plane for Leyte and the first boat home. She was the only colored passenger.

Dusty, hatless, ragged, the group was put on the plane. They were so weak, Marines had to carry them aboard ship at Leyte.

All during the voyage home, each ex-internee got two bottles of beer a day. Each morning, they lined up to get shots in the arm—liver shots, vitamin shots—all kinds of shots. They consumed gallons of coffee, tons of bread, butter, jam. They ate like the famished humans they were.

When the ship docked at Oakland, California, it was the end of Ma's life in the Philippines.

She never wants to go back. Her boarding house is in ashes, the old friends are dead, or scattered, or gone. Her foster son and daughters are there, all married, and of course she would like to be with them. But their roots are in the Philippines. Hers are here.

It's been a hard time. With the end of the urgency and the crisis has come another kind of worry. The worry, now, of where is the next meal to come from? The rent?



At small home in Pasadena, Millie Sanders lives alone and has trying time making ends meet. She has no children although she did adopt two of half-white and half-Filipino parentage before the war in the Philippines.

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Scalloped-detailed jacket blouse enhances cool look of dressy two-piece made of fashionable "Tie-Print," Cohama's hand-washable, challis-type rayon. Costume is flattering to shorter woman. (Design No. 4548, sizes 12 to 20, 30 to 38, price 50c)



Long-sleeved version of suit-dress shows design No. 4548 in more sophisticated mood. This time fabric is Cohama's "Request," gossamer sheer worsted woolen in two tones of popular amber color. Jacket can be lined later for fall wear.



# THE SUIT-DRESS

**B**EATING the heat is a simple enough matter for those who can spend a torrid day lounging about in a brief little sundress or an even briefer little bathing suit. But most women, who must go on with their daily toils in town whether it's August or January, find that such light-hearted togs don't always do. Bare backs and bare arms are still considered too boydenish for a 9-to-5 job, and sheer little cottons wilt and get frowsy looking after a day downtown with the children.

To those busy women who spend part or all of their summers in the sweltering city, EBONY recommends the suit-dress, a well-mannered little costume combining the crisp, semi-tailored lines of a suit with the airy, unlined coolness of a summer frock.

The suit-dress is always smart-looking, retains its mint-julep freshness from early morning shopping to an evening of dining out and the theater. It can be easily "dressed down" with sports accessories such as a panama, shortie gloves and spectator pumps, or just as easily "dressed up" with chic hat, longer gloves and costume jewelry.

But more than any other style, the suit-dress owes its perfection to a successful combination of good design and correct fabric. To preserve its clean and unwilted lines, it must be made of materials that are lightweight yet firm; thin yet crease-resistant.

Today, as a result of wartime textile research, such fabrics are readily available on the yard goods counters. Using Butterick patterns and Cohama fabrics especially designed for suit dresses, EBONY has created four typical town-and-travel costumes that can be copied easily and inexpensively on the home sewing machine. The dress-suits on these pages have been made up by Hilda Calhoun and are modelled by Toy Sewell.

In addition to the materials used here, these designs can also be made up in gingham, chambrays, seersuckers and piques. Pastel tones, checks and plaids, and two-shade combinations of such colors as amber or violet are most popular.



Cleverly coordinated colors enables smart home-sewer to create three costumes for price of two, using one pattern. Dark amber jacket is teamed with tie print skirt in same background color, resulting in chic town costume.

Continued on Next Page



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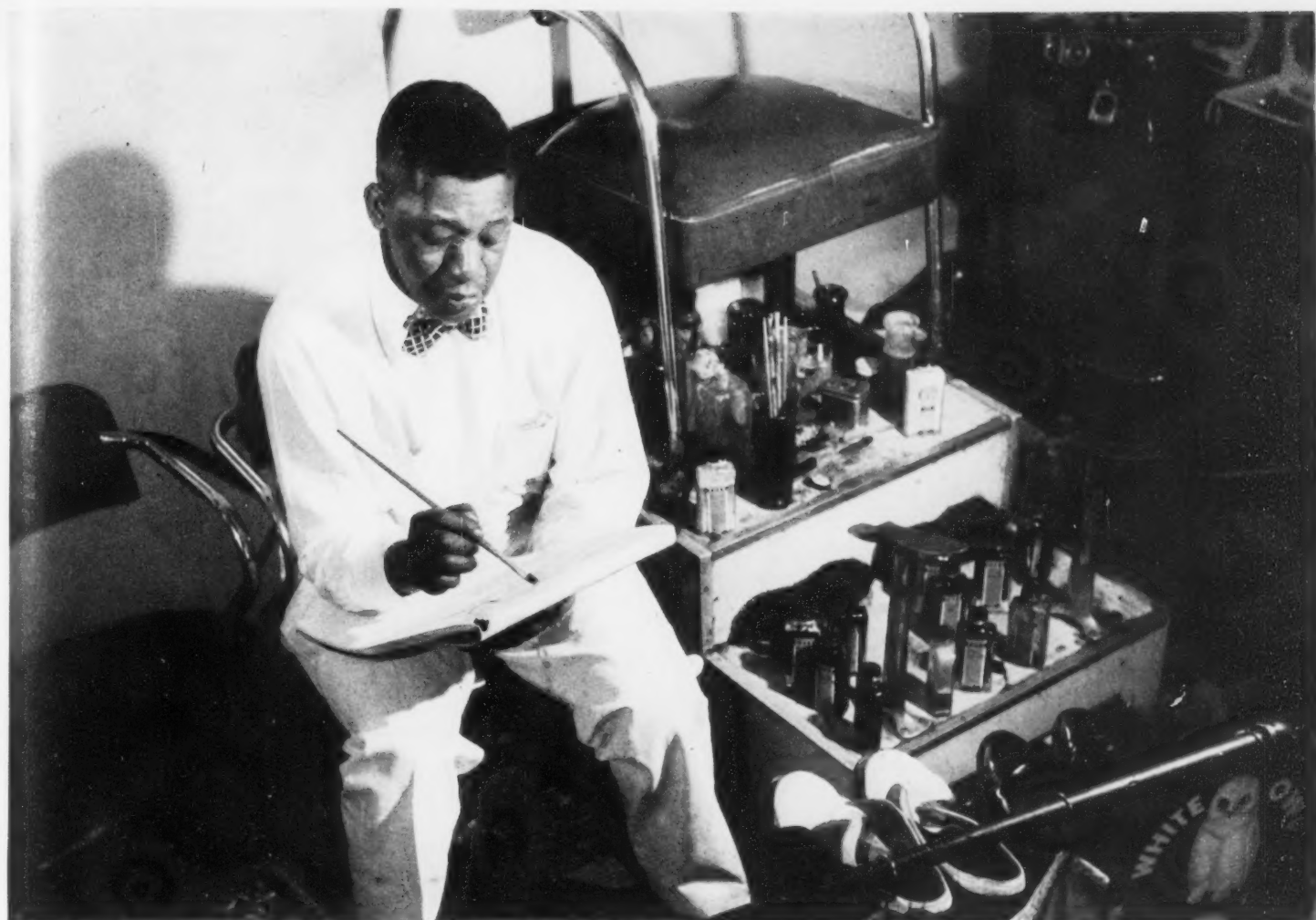
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Besides cluttered shoeshine stand in Chicago's Pershing Hotel, James Howard works on a new painting with liquid shoe polish between barbershop customers. Howard never uses live models for his hobby, uses five different colors in each painting.

# SHOE POLISH PAINTER

Chicago bootblack is artist between shines

IN THE RANKS of America's thousands of bootblacks, 26-year-old ex-GI James Howard ranks as an aristocrat. The Chicago "shoeshine boy" is more than an artist on leather alone; he also rates as an artist on the drawing board, painting portraits and landscapes with shoe dressing.

Between shines and odd jobs around the Pershing Hotel barbershop the last three years, Howard puttered around with his polishes and developed the knack of painting. Without any formal training, the shoe polish artist picked up the yen to paint during his army days in the field artillery. After his discharge, Howard found the "first-of-the-week lag" in the barbershop boring. He bought a water color pad and started his doodling technique with tempera paints. When he left his paints at home one day, he discovered that the dozen colors of Zoes polish kept in his stand worked just as well as tempera. He's been using the polish ever since to paint dozens of flat profiles and an occasional landscape which he does from memory.

Besides painting, acting with the local Skyloft Players and writing plays, Howard also has a hobby of collecting photos of famous people whose shoes he has shined. His list includes Pearl Bailey, Sara Vaughn, Sugar Chile Robinson, the Nicholas Brothers and Savannah Churchill, who signed her picture: "To Jimmy, creator of Shines of Distinction." Occasionally in exchange for an autograph, Howard gives celebrities one of the half dozen pieces he manages to paint each week. He never sells his work although he says he has had "offers."



Shadowless paintings are hung in gaudy frames by Howard in his \$9-a-week room. He attended Wilberforce for two years after graduating from high school correspondence course. He has written three plays, two of them produced in Army.



**Theresa Harris** departs from conventional maid portraits in *The Velvet Touch* by dressing in flattering blouses and skirts instead of the usual uniform. In the RKO film starring Rosalind Russell as a stage star who murders her producer, the veteran actress who has played Rochester's girl friend in several movies speaks without a dialect. The Texas-born miss is rounding out her 15th year in Hollywood. Dissatisfied with maid parts, she feels: "All I can do is keep on plugging and hoping."

## MOVIE MAIDS

**Eight new Hollywood films backtrack to hack racial stereotypes in casting Negro actors as usual maids and menials**

**F**OR ALL its self-professed righteous reforms of recent years, Hollywood is still sticking to the same old stereotypes of moon-faced maids and groveling menials, zoot entertainers and bug-eyed Stepin Fetchits in casting Negroes. The typical month's output of celluloid from the movie capital, as seen on these pages, shows Hollywood slipping back into the prewar rut of Dixie-minded presentation of the Negro that brought sizzling criticism during World War II when racism was made unpopular by Hitler.

At least five of the newly-released pictures feature the usual maid roles, with perennial Hattie McDaniel donning an apron for the 83rd time since she first went before the cameras in 1931. Five others (see next page) also come up with hack racial portraits—the jazz-crazy entertainer, the street peddler and the superstitious chauffeur.

Hattie McDaniel, who once told a reporter, "What do they want me to



**Louise Beavers** is a maid in David Selznick's *Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House* and a cook in Universal-International's *Washington Girl*. The veteran Cincinnati-born actress, who has been in movies since 1927, has a big role in *Mr. Blandings*, saves Cary Grant's advertising job by slipping him a winning slogan for baked ham. Armour will use her picture in a forthcoming advertising campaign for its ham. *Washington Girl*, starring Deanna Durban, also has Jesse Graves as butler.







Hattie McDaniel plays a family maid in Eagle-Lion's *Mickey*, which stars Lois Butler. Hattie is the most successful Negro actress in films, has appeared in 275 in 17 years. She keeps a maid, but likes to do her own cooking.

do—play a glamour girl and sit on Clark Gable's knee," insists she will play maid's roles as long as Negroes in real life work as menials.

Hattie, like many others who play Hollywood menial roles, actually worked as a maid at Sam Pick's Suburban Inn in Milwaukee until the owner put her on to sing one night. She then graduated from the ladies' room to the stage. Libby Taylor quit the stage to take a maid's job for Mae West who was headed for Hollywood. When she landed maid's roles in two of Mae's pictures, she dropped her apron to stick to greasepaint once again. But she had to add 35 pounds of weight to meet Hollywood specifications of how a Negro maid should look. Louise Beavers, on the other hand, got into show business as a singer and personally hates cooking and housework. When she was called upon to flip griddle cakes in *Imitation Of Life*, a cook had to give her lessons in the art.



Libby Taylor has a dramatic role as maid of a Southern family in Lillian Hellman's *Another Part of the Forest*, starring Frederic March. Her last role was in *The Foxes of Harrow*. She's been in films since 1933.

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Marie Bryant swings the title song of RKO's *Your Red Wagon*, a story of  
pushed-around juveniles. Popular recording star has only appeared in movies  
once before, a Warner Bros. short, *Jammin' the Blues*, starring Negro musicians.



Clarence Muse has a bit part as a flower peddler in Universal-International's  
*The Judge's Wife*, starring Frederic March. In screen story dealing with  
mercy killing, Muse sells daily flower to "Judge" March.



Mantan Moreland, only Negro actor with a Hollywood contract aside from  
Lena Horne, is back with his pop-eyed antics in Monogram's new Charlie  
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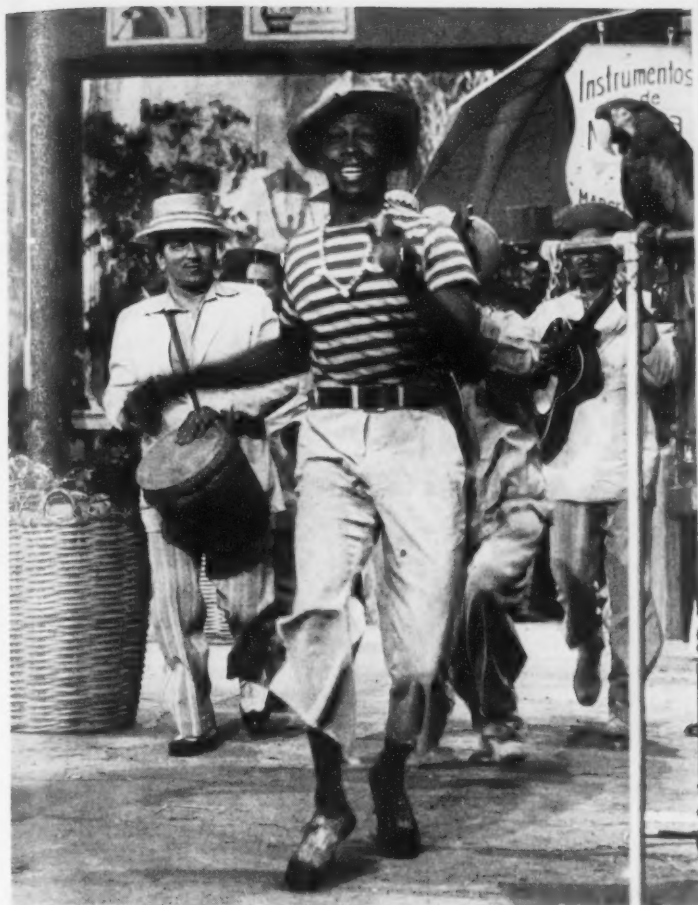
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Pearl Bailey gets a cook's role in her second Hollywood appearance. In Paramount's musical *Isn't It Romantic* which stars Veronica Lake and Mona Freeman, the popular songstress does little more than get a chance to sing.

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# THE RIGHT NOT TO DISCRIMINATE

THERE IS an unquestioned note of comedy in all the sound and fury generated throughout the South by the still-raging political battle over whether Negroes should be granted civil rights already assumed by the U.S. Constitution to be rightfully theirs. The spectacle of spuming Southerners of all political shades and schools rushing to the Mason and Dixon Line parapets to defend the cherished right of Dixie to "keep the Negro in his place" has all the elements of a mirthful Gilbert and Sullivan operetta. Anywhere else but in the South the burlesque routines of the Dixie politicians would merit jobs as circus barkers or radio comics rather than places in the U.S. Congress. But instead of yak-yaks, these cantankerous Claghorns get votes.

Because a decrepit U.S. legislative setup gives these fugitives from comic strips a potent voice as well as vote in the No. 1 forum of the nation, these Dixiecrats can't be a laughing matter. For rather than stay in their own bailiwick with their white supremacy routines, they have of late been trying to prevent the rest of the country from deriving the benefits of modern-day civilization. Any and all efforts to make democracy a reality outside of Dixie have been blocked by the Southern bloc in Congress who insist on maintaining what they have dreamed up as a new kind of civil right—"the right to discriminate."

## New Version Of The Four Freedoms

THIS SEEMS to be the new line of the Confederates who lost the Civil War but who have been winning the peace ever since. Now it is the South, which is fighting for the Four Freedoms—the new version which includes "freedom to lynch, freedom to levy poll tax, freedom to serve in a lily-white Army, freedom to attend a Jim Crow school." And the "democracy-loving" governor of South Carolina, J. Strom Thurmond, is willing to take on the U.S. Army single-handedly to defend those freedoms. "Not all the laws of Washington, or all the bayonets of the Army can force the Negro into our homes, our churches and our schools, or into our places of amusement and recreation," he bellowed to a recent rally of Democratic rebels.

"We insist upon the right which we regard as sacred to choose our own associates," orated a bellicose Senator James O. Eastland before the American Society of Newspaper Editors. The old bugaboo of social equality is being trotted out by every Dixie daily and the threat to secede—this time from the Democratic Party—is belligerently set forth, all to maintain that most holy of holies, "the right to discriminate."

But if there exists under a democratic form of government a "right to discriminate," what about "the right not to discriminate?" If Senator Eastland hotly maintains the right to choose his own associates, what about the right of other Southern whites in youth groups, churches and schools to associate with whomever they wish. If most Southern whites demand the right to exclude Negroes from their homes—and who would deny them this right?—why do they not allow others the right to admit colored friends to theirs? If the South is suddenly to become so terribly concerned about the nation's tolerance for its racial views, then the least that could be expected is that it would reciprocate towards the rest of the country.

## Spreading The Supremacy Doctrine

THE SPECIES of bigot in the Southern habitat, infected as he is with the virulent, contagious germ of racial hate, does not believe in isolationism, however. The mock cry of anguish demanding the "right to discriminate" is but a cover-up for the nefarious scheme to spread the doctrine of white supremacy far and wide. For the Rankins, Ellenders and their ilk are a belligerent, aggressive clan whose Jim Crow cult they hope to push just as widely as Hitler dreamed of cultivating his theories of Aryan supremacy.

Unfortunately they have done a pretty good job of it, certainly a much better and thorough one than the progressive whites who champion the

cause of interracial good will and tolerance. Today in many cities and communities in the North the right of non-discrimination is virtually non-existent. Whites who would like to associate as freely with Negroes as they do with any other race and nationalities find themselves the butt of every type of abuse from the glowering frowns of polite society to open violence by police in some cases.

In the nation's capital, some government officials have found their "loyalty" questioned by the FBI because they have associated with Negroes. In Harlem police have challenged whites in the street on their way to a Negro night club or to a Negro friend's home. In Chicago police have on several occasions raided homes of whites because neighbors complained they had Negro guests at a party. Landlords have been known to evict white tenants because they had Negro callers. In one case a landlord complained because a tenant had a Negro friend arrive for a visit in a Cadillac. "After all if you have a colored wash woman, it's all right but . . ." A Chicago policeman recently paid more than \$2,000 in an out of court settlement of a false arrest case when he made the mistake of taking into custody the white-looking colored wife of a Negro musician. Her only crime: associating with a Negro which usually appears on the blotter as "disorderly conduct."

For many years, Eleanor Roosevelt has been looked down upon by "respectable society" because she mixed with Negro women like Mary McLeod Bethune in gatherings such as that on the opposite page.

## The Truth About Social Equality

THESE ARE the more grim manifestations of the violation of the right of non-discrimination. More subtle is the embarrassment to whites who want to eat lunch with a colored friend and find that many restaurants will not serve them. Whites who wish to go bowling or roller skating together with Negro friends in many cities find it well nigh impossible. There are but a handful of places where a white can take a Negro to dance. Right down the line in many, many phases of everyday life, the freedom of whites to associate with Negroes is limited and in many cases completely illusory.

Racial discrimination is a two-edged sword, limiting the rights and freedoms of whites as well as Negroes.

Big contention of the South in arguing in favor of segregation has been that it prevents Negroes from forcing social equality on whites. This, of course, is a deliberate and deceitful distortion. South Carolina's Governor Thurmond, to the contrary notwithstanding, no Negro ever will or ever can force himself into a white man's home, his church, his places of recreation. As Eleanor Roosevelt has pointed out time and again in reply to phoney Dixie arguments, social equality is a matter of mutual acceptance, mutual friendship, mutual respect. It is a two-way affair requiring that the white be willing to accept the Negro and the Negro be willing to accept the white. No more than a white stranger can force his way in a Negro's home can a Negro stranger force his way into a white man's home. No Negro can force a white girl to dance with him, to marry him, to associate with him. The reverse is also true.

## Export Of The South's Dictum

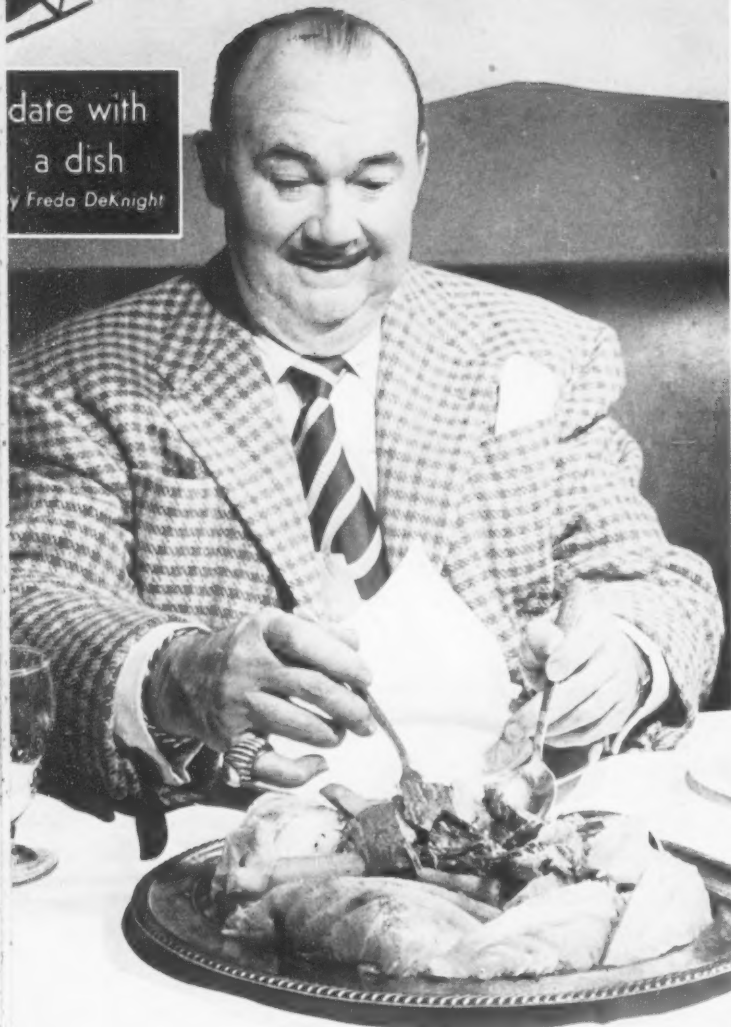
THE SOUTH rails and rants about social equality because it is evidently intent on preventing progressive whites from associating with Negroes if they like and vice versa. The whole civil rights issue is not so much a matter of forcing social equality on whites as it is the export of the South's dictum to the rest of the nation forcing all whites to accept the lack of racial equality, social or otherwise.

As long as the little Hitlers in Birmingham and Atlanta, Charleston and Memphis insist on "the right to discriminate," the rest of the nation should demand that the South respect its wish to be genuinely democratic and enforce the right not to discriminate.





date with  
a dish  
by Freda DeKnight



**Paul Whiteman** samples some of his favorite dish, corned beef and cabbage. He likes it spiced right, especially with caraway seeds which add an unusual flavor. Whiteman is author of a new book, *Records For The Millions*.

## CORNERED BEEF AND CABBAGE

**N**EXT to his fame as the musician who made jazz respectable and became America's first King of Jazz, Paul Whiteman is perhaps best known for his avoirdupois. But strangely enough since the popular orchestra leader stopped appearing on bandstands and took up a post behind a microphone as one of the nation's foremost disc jockeys, he's gone streamlined with a diet that cut down his excess poundage.

But that doesn't stop the musical director of the American Broadcasting Company from being a confirmed gourmet. "I love to eat," he confesses. "All foods fascinate me." And when he temporarily abandons his diet every now and then, he turns to a longtime favorite—old-fashioned corned beef and cabbage with carrots and green peppers "and seasoned just right."

"There's nothing to beat it," he insists. "When I'm on my farm at Rosemont, New Jersey, we make our own corned beef from some of our prize Aberdeen Angus cattle and raise all our own vegetables. That's when it is fun eating it—when you see it grow. There's a trick to cooking it just right. You must be sure your vegetables are fresh. Be sure not to overcook the cabbage. The beauty of the dish lies in the color and cabbage will stay green if not overcooked. Overcooking is what causes trouble . . . too much fat!"



**1** **Select** fresh lean brisket of corned beef. Rinse well several times to remove brine. When cooking cover with cold water.



**2** **Remove** all excess fat. Let stand in cold water 30 minutes. Add two pods red pepper and cook slowly two to three hours.



**3** **Wash** firm fresh green cabbage and trim all dark spots. Cut in half. From each half cut wedges about 2 inches thick.



**4** **Peel** carrots, onions and cut green peppers in half, removing seeds. Potatoes may be added if desired.



**5** **Lay** cabbage wedges in with corned beef. Do not add water unless meat is very dry. Let steam cook vegetables.



**6** **Sprinkle** cabbage with black pepper which is ground in pepper mill. This is special way that Whiteman likes dish.



**7** **Arrange** rest of vegetables in pot with cabbage. Sprinkle with paprika, garlic salt and salt.



**8** **Sprinkle** few Dutch caraway seed on vegetables. Cook 35 to 45 minutes at most. Serve with corn bread or corn sticks.





John T. Vidal is New York City's biggest Negro furrier with a \$250,000 business catering to the colored social register set. Trinidad-born Vidal (left) has six employees, four white, in his downtown shop. He has sold coats valued up to \$12,000 each. Customers include wives of King Cole, Lionel Hampton and Cab Calloway.

## FURRIERS

**Half dozen colored shops valued at \$500,000 sell sleek pelts to predominantly white trade**

THIS MONTH heralds the start of open season for fur coat shoppers. It's time for the annual August sales that give wives that certain expensive gleam in their eyes and husbands a tighter grip on their bill-folds. By winter's end the bait of luxurious hides draped fetchingly around waxy show window dummies will lure more than half a billion dollars out of reluctant male pockets. Getting their share of the highly profitable fur business will be more than half a dozen Negro furriers in as many cities who sell pelts to predominantly white customers.

With their shops valued at more than half a million dollars, these pioneers in a field still virtually virgin to Negroes find color no handicap. Fur manufacturing is such a highly skilled trade that competent craftsmen find little difficulty in obtaining employment and in becoming successful in their own ventures.

Chicago's Cleve Clark, who has thrived in the Chicago Loop for 16 of his 22 business years, remembers the woman from a small Illinois town who came to his State Street salon. When he brought out his most beautiful furs, she looked around inquiringly: "Is this a colored place?"

"No," replied Clark quietly. "This is a business place." The woman laughed, stayed and ordered an expensive mink.

Like many colored furriers, the 43-year-old ex-tailor who learned his trade at Alabama A & M gets much of his business from fashionable white shops who send either their customers or their measurements for custom-made coats. Most expensive he ever designed was a \$10,000 white mink for a Hollywood star he never saw. He got \$1,200 for his labor.

Biggest of the colored furriers is New York's John T. Vidal, whose clients read like a Who's Who of Negro life. Since he opened his first shop in a downtown loft 25 years ago, he has sold pelts to notables from all over the nation. In contrast to Vidal is W. J. Box of Corinth, Miss. (pop. 7,800), who operates the oldest fur establishment of the lot. Perhaps the only Negro furrier in the South, he tans his own furs, sews a coat in two days and sells to a clientele that is 90 per cent white.



Cleve Clark has second largest workroom (2,000 square feet) of any Chicago furrier. He specializes in mink, keeps \$50,000 stock on hand in Loop shop on State Street. Cheapest coat he's made was \$500 Persian lamb.

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VIRGO (Aug. 22-Sept. 22)  
Eucalyptus, Myrtle  
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
Apple Blossom, Rose  
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)  
Honeysuckle, Nicotiana  
SAGITTARIUS  
(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)  
Wild Pink, Carnation  
CAPRICORN  
(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)  
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New Moon Hay  
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(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)  
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# NEGROES IN FUR INDUSTRY

THE FUR BUSINESS has come a long way since the pioneer days of Daniel Boone and his coonskin-capped clan, who traded the Indians a blanket and a bottle of fire water for a winter's catch of beaver pelts. Today it is a highly organized industry from the 7,000-odd fur ranches throughout the nation to the 3,000 fur manufacturers in five New York City blocks who make 90 per cent of all America's coats. Negroes are part of the industry from fur trapping and raising to the selling end. Colored mink ranchers range all the way from Frank Waldron in Bothell, Washington, to Montelle Stewart, who has been raising mink and fox on his 500-acre farm in South Haven, Michigan, for the past ten years. While there are hundreds of Negroes employed in many capacities in the leading fur manufacturing centers, only a handful own their own businesses.

Most of these Negro furriers entered the industry quite by accident. A newspaper ad served as the opening wedge for Horace Colley, who began as a \$4-a-week apprentice in a Lincoln, Nebraska, department store's fur department at the age of 15. When he graduated from high school, he wrote to a Detroit furrier and asked for a job, stating his color. Not only was he hired but also was advanced \$100 to tide him over until pay day. After 20 years, Colley decided to go into business for himself and returned to his native Lincoln where his Colley's Complete Fur Service was an immediate success. When he discovered zoning laws prohibited



George and Alma Byrd of Detroit have customers in a dozen states, sell everything from cheap \$77.75 rabbit to \$5,000 minks. Byrd started as apprentice to wife, now has eight employees, white and Negro. Customers are 60 per cent white.





Charles S. Walls runs \$30,000 fur business in Philadelphia. He started learning about furs as errand boy at age of 14, has had his own shop for 28 years. He stores up to 3,000 furs each summer. Third of trade is white.

## FROM RAISING TO SELLING

his business in a residential district where he set up shop, he appealed to the city council and was given special permission to remain.

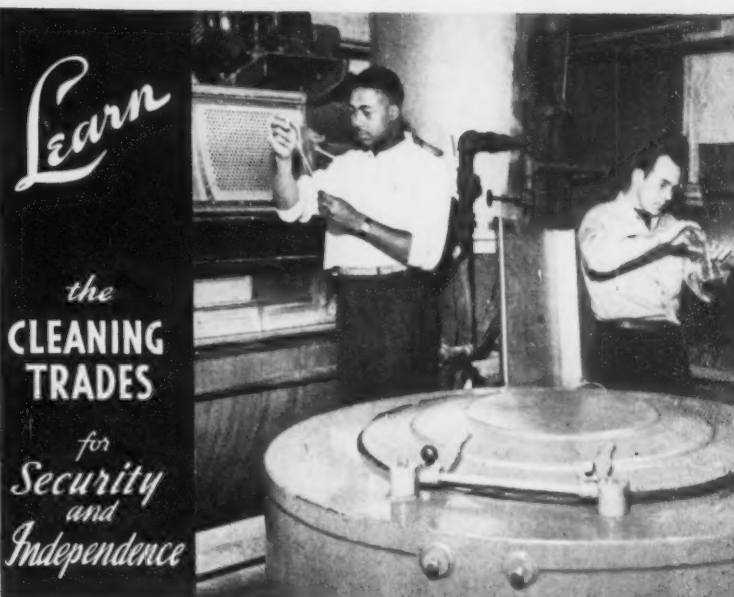
Young Cleve Clark, a budding tailor fresh out of Alabama's A & M College, went to St. Louis to open a vest shop. Passing a fur shop, he stopped to admire a window display. "Why," he asked himself, "should I make a vest for \$2 when I could be making a coat for \$2,000?" He entered the store, asked the startled proprietor for a job and was hired as a fur finisher for \$20 a week because of his training. When he left four years later to establish his own shop, he was earning \$125 a week as a cutter.

Mississippi's W. J. Box never served any apprenticeship but learned the trade by actual experience. He started out by buying raw furs and selling them to fur finishers. "Each season they would drop low in price," Box found. "I noticed that finished furs never dropped in price in stores and I thought I would get on the inside of the business."

Box and the other furriers go to New York and other buying centers once or twice a year for their stock which is auctioned off at prices ranging from five cents for poor grade skunks to \$100 for a platinum fox pelt. All with the exception of Box employ an interracial working force to do the skilled jobs of cutting, slicing, matching, patching, stretching, letting out and stitching the furs before they become coats ready for sale.



Ernest Settles has 98 per cent white clientele in his Plainfield, N. J., shop. He opened his \$10,000 business in small town 22 years ago after learning trade in Chicago, was once bat boy for college baseball team that Branch Rickey captained.



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W. J. Box has been tanning hides and making fur coats in Corinth, Mississippi, for 30 years. His trade is almost entirely white. Flower-raising nets him 35 per cent of his income. He was delegate to 1948 Republican convention.

## WIVES OF FURRIERS HAVE AT LEAST THREE FUR COATS

FURRIERS' WIVES are a happy little society of females who are the envy of their less fortunate sisters under the animal skin. For the lady whose husband makes furs inevitably also wears elegant skins too. Mates of the Negro furriers are no exception and virtually all have at least three fur coats in their closets to choose from on nippy winter days.

The most luxurious collection is owned by Mrs. Ted Vidal, whose eight garments in her husband's vaults are valued at \$25,000. Three are Vidal-designed masterpieces—a Labrador mink, a platina fox and a stone martin jacket.

Favorite fur of most of the furriers is mink although furs like chinchilla and Russian sable are much more expensive. Cleve Clark sees a trend from chubbies to capes, notes: "Popular priced furs change in fancy but better furs remain popular forever." New colors are also a recent development, according to Vidal, who reports: "The variety of new fur dyes makes your choice of the proper shade as personal as a lipstick. There are new silver blue grays and rosy casts, warm cocoa browns and blue blacks."

Because few customers are able to distinguish good furs, Vidal recommends that women buyers go only to reputable dealers. "Let your fingers be your first judge," he advises. "All furs should feel supple and pliable to the touch. A hard skin will have a tendency to crack or split. The dye colors should be true and even. Study the colors outdoors or in daylight conditions."

In buying Persian lamb, Vidal advises that the customer look for neither the tight nor extremely open curls. "Both are less expensive than the between," he says. "Choose the curl that looks best for you. Look for uniformity of curl, too." In muskrat, Vidal notes, "Look for uniformity in stripes, true color and a soft, pliable skin."

To preserve a coat in good shape as long as possible (a mink can last as long as 20 years), furriers recommend storage in a cool, spacious place and cleaning once a year.

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